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CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Code of conduct needed in South China Sea: Govt

External affairs minister Jaishankar said sea lines of communication passing through South China Sea are critical for peace, stability in the Indo-Pacific Region. The Code of Conduct in the South China Sea should be consistent with global law and not prejudice legitimate rights and interest of nations not party to discussions, he said at the 14th East Asia Summit

1ST WOMAN IN 20 YRS

FRENCH PROMISE FOR MANU

India shooter Manu Bhaker | AP

WHEN the joy is back for an athlete, it's not at all joyous for the opponents. Firing freely, soaking the pressure and not thinking about winning or losing has made an indelible mark on her psyche.

Manu Bhaker, 22, had trying times before and after the Tokyo Olympics when she was still a teen. The shooter had broken away from her childhood coach (in Japan, she was two points off qualifying for final). She did not know where her career was heading and was seeking stability. "I told him (coach Jaspal Rana) that I will shoot with you only and I don't know if I would continue after 2024," she had told this daily earlier. She had learnt her lessons and realised that people forget what medal you have won when you lose. On a wet Saturday at Chateauroux, some 250 km away from Paris, Bhaker lifted the spirits of the Indian team. She started off slowly, but once she hit the target, it was the Bhaker show. She finished third with a score of 580 behind Veronika Major (582) and Jin Ye Oh (582). Sunday could be the day when India win their first medal. P13

Didi walks out of NITI Aayog meet

Prime Minister calls for zero poverty, wants it prioritised at the village level for achieving Viksit Bharat

The vision of Viksit Bharat can be realised through Viksit states. The aspiration of Viksit Bharat should reach the grassroot level i.e. to each district, block, and village

Narendra Modi

Naidu spoke for 20 mins. Assam, Arunachal, Chhattisgarh, and Goa CMs spoke for 15-20 mins. But as soon as I spoke for 5 mins, they kept hitting the bell

Mamata Banerjee

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

WEST Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday created a flutter by claiming she was not allowed to complete her speech at the NITI Aayog governing council meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, an allegation that was emphatically denied by the government.

Mamata also claimed that her microphone was turned off five minutes into her speech. But the Press Information Bureau's fact-checking vertical rubbished it. "The clock only showed that her speaking time was over. Even the bell was not rung to mark it," the PIB said. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, too, trashed the allegation and said every chief minister was "allotted their due time to speak".

B V R Subrahmanyam, the Chief Executive Officer of NITI Aayog, informed that all CMs were allotted seven minutes to speak. They got their turn in alphabetic order. "Since Mamata was representing West Bengal, her turn would have come in the afternoon, but she made a request to speak before lunch and it was agreed."

Mamata was the only CM from an Opposition-ruled state to participate. Her Bihar counterpart Nitish Kumar, who is part of the NDA at the Centre, also did not make it. In all, 10 CMs did not show up.

Putting it in context, TMC sources said Mamata attended the meet despite attempts by the Opposition INDIA bloc to wean her away, so as to send a message that she would not be guided by Congress strategies.

In his address, Modi emphasised the need to tackle poverty on an individual level rather than just at a programme level. "We must target zero poverty as a priority for a Viksit Bharat starting at the village level," he said, adding it would have a transformational effect.

In her speech, Mamata said, "Many states have been deprived in the Budget, including my state, which has been deprived of MNREGA funds for the last three years." She said the Centre cannot discriminate between states based on its political equation with the parties governing them.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Union ministers and CMs during a group photo session in New Delhi on Saturday | PTI

Make policies to attract FDI, Modi urges states

Modi urged all states to take advantage of technological and geopolitical changes to make India developed by 2047. He advised them to make policies conducive for attracting FDI. He also directed the NITI Aayog to prepare an investment-friendly charter

WITH THIS ISSUE
BOLD MONK
PLUS 12 PAGES MAGAZINE

Attack by Pak special forces kills one jawan

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi warned Pakistan on 25th anniversary of Kargil War, Pakistan's Border Action Team and militants attacked the Army's forward post along the Line of Control (LoC) in Machil sector of J&K on Saturday. While the Army foiled the attack, a jawan was killed and four other soldiers, including a Captain, were injured in the gunfight. One Pakistani intruder was gunned down.

Defence spokesman in Srinagar said the Pakistan special forces team took advantage of bad weather and poor visibility along the LoC in north Kashmir's Kupwara district. Two or three armed men crossed the LoC and fired on the forward Army post from close proximity, he said.

A BAT team generally comprises Pakistani commandos and highly trained militants. Sources said two other BAT members fled to the other side of the LoC after the gunfight. The injured soldiers were taken to the Army's base hospital at Badamibagh Cantonment in Srinagar for specialised treatment. The deceased jawan was identified as rifleman Mohit Rathour. He succumbed to his injuries in the hospital. The defence spokesman said the Army is trying to ascertain whether the slain Pakistani national was a regular soldier or a terrorist or a guide.

ST Corpn scam: 10 kg gold biscuits seized

THE ROW

The scam involves Rs 187.33 crore kept in different accounts which was diverted to a bank in Bengaluru.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the multi-crore scam in Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation has recovered 10 kg of gold biscuits from the house of Satyanarayan Verma, a key accused.

During interrogation, Verma disclosed that he had purchased 15 kg of gold biscuits using the scam money. However, SIT officials could recover only 10 kg of gold biscuits from Verma's and his relatives' houses in Hyderabad on Thursday. Verma had also bought four flats in Nizamabad.

Earlier, the officials recovered a Lamborghini car worth Rs 3.3 crore from Verma. They also recovered Rs 8 crore from Verma's relatives' houses. Verma, 36, was arrested in Hyderabad on June 13 for allegedly opening 18 fake bank accounts to transfer the scam money. So far, 12 accused have been arrested in connection with the scam.

PG murder case: Accused nabbed in MP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

POLICE have arrested Abhishek J, 23, from his hometown near Raisen in Madhya Pradesh for allegedly murdering Kriti Kumari, 24, in her PG facility in the city on Tuesday.

He was arrested around 12.40 pm on Friday and brought to Bengaluru on Saturday. Preliminary investigations revealed that Abhishek was in a relationship with Kriti's roommate, who recently separated from him. Abhishek believed Kumari was behind his girlfriend's separation from him. P5

1st tunnel road from Hebbal to Silk Board: DKS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

DEPUTY Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister DK Shivakumar on Saturday said that tenders will be called for the first tunnel road project in Bengaluru after getting the state cabinet's approval.

After a meeting with MPs, MLAs and MLCs from Bengaluru on the development of the IT city under the concept of Brand Bengaluru, he said, "The meeting discussed the proposed 18.5-km tunnel road from Esteem Mall at Hebbal to Silk Board junction at BTM Layout. P2

ALMANAC TODAY
Sunday: 28.07.2024 • Year: Krodhi • Ayana: Dakshinayana
Ritu: Greeshma • Masa: Ashada • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Ashtami 10.32 pm
Nakshatra: Ashwini 3.43 pm • Moon in Vrishabha Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00pm
Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER
MIN 20°C | MAX 27°C
FORECAST
Passing showers. Overcast

Sunrise 06.04 am
Sunset 06.47 pm
Moonrise 12.07 am
Moonset 12.27 pm

Bhaskar Kogga Kamath with a puppet

WHEN STRINGS SPEAK

Bhaskar Kogga Kamath, a sixth-generation master puppeteer, captivates the world with Yakshagana Gombeyata

KAAVYASHRI RAO @Mangaluru

IN a tiny coastal hamlet of Uppinakudru in Udupi's Kundapur taluk, a 350-year-old coastal art thrives. Welcome to *GombeMane* (puppet house), where 60-year-old Bhaskar Kogga Kamath, a sixth-generation master puppeteer, resides. Bhaskar, who quit a lucrative bank job, now captivates the world with *Yakshagana Gombeyata* (stringed puppet play).

Bhaskar has added more sheen to the art by including puppets of animals, different yoga styles, and more. *Yakshagana Gombeyata* belongs to the *Badagathittu* style of art form, but the idiosyncratic innovations Bhaskar brings in are endless. Bhaskar was introduced to this art form at a tender age of six by his guru and father, Devanna Kamath. Trained in Yakshagana, Bhaskar has authored several research-based books on the art. His father Devanna was encouraged and supported by social reformer Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay and polymath Shivaram Karanth and was famed all over the country in his heyday. Bhaskar now strives to sustain and further his hybrid art that is said to have originated in the Stone Age.

Training other students is also a part of his mission. At his headquarters, *Gombe Mane*, Bhaskar has over 1,000 puppets, all created by him and his team of 15. "My team comprises people with different roles... some play music, a few are trainees," says Bhaskar. Traditionally, the 18-inch-tall puppets are made using wood sourced from locally available trees, like the jackfruit. Every stage of puppet-making — from shaping the wood to attaching the strings to painting and gumming them — is carefully handled by Bhaskar himself. He even makes his unique gum, a concoction that has even been academically studied. Bhaskar's shows are divided into two. The first is a traditional depiction of an episode from the epics or Yakshagana tales. "There's power in the epics," he says. However, he has adapted his art to suit modern sensibilities and requirements by channelling the hidden purpose of puppeteering — teaching social values to children.

As someone skilled at making bird and animal puppets, Bhaskar has been creating awareness on climate change and the need for education. "I teach children about 3Ds – Dedication, Determination and Discipline," he adds with a smile.

While the Rajyotsava award winner laments the lack of structured support, his "can-do" spirit and "never say die" attitude are the reasons behind the flood of innovations that he has introduced to international puppetry. Many international puppet festivals in Europe, South Asia, Southeast Asia and Australia have featured his shows.

A proud experimenter, Bhaskar says his animal puppets enable him to depict the entire epics of Ramayana and Mahabharata using feathered characters like Jatayu and Sampathi. His best work so far is 'Virata Swarupa' Hanuman, which grows in size during the Lanka Dahan scene. "I feel wonderful when I handle the Hanuman and Krishna puppets... that's a different feeling altogether," he adds. He also has a puppet that makes traditional gestures like the Bharatnatyam head tilt.

An interesting analogy that he uses to describe the difference between Yakshagana and Yakshagana puppetry is, "It's the difference between speaking and writing the same thing with an instrument." His sonorous voiced narrations are given in Konkani, Kannada and English, though the language is not a barrier for puppetry.

And one visit to *Gombe Mane* ignites one's imagination and stimulates cultural connection in the most unique ways. "In this day and age of flighty entertainment, 'out of sight is out of mind' is very valid," Bhaskar soldiers on, preserving and promoting his family art tirelessly.

YOUNG CYCLIST ON MISSION TO REVIVE HIS VILLAGE SCHOOL IN CHITRADURGA DIST, HAS CYCLED THROUGH EIGHT COUNTRIES

PRAJNA GR @ Madikeri

AMID Kodagu's moist and foggy weather, two bicyclists caught the attention of commuters on NH-275 recently. The two youngsters were togged up in biking gear, pedalling across the hilly terrain of Kodagu – they were not riding for a lark, but were cycling for a cause.

Sudarshana DT, 25, is a native of Chitradurga who now leads a nomadic life. He and his relative, Sharath Kumar P, were on a monsoon bicycle ride and had pitched tent in Madikeri. While the two look forward to making a short movie on the monsoon in Karnataka, Sudarshan is riding to raise funds to revive his alma mater. He has ridden a bicycle across eight countries (including India) for this mission.

Hailing from the small village of Hanumanahalli in Chitradurga district, Sudarshan worked as a senior sales executive at a corporate firm in Bengaluru. However, he lost his job during the pandemic. "During this time, my company refused to hand over my FnF (Full & Final Settlement). The company owed me Rs 52,000. However, they agreed to pay me only Rs 10,000," recalled Sudarshan.

In retaliation to the injustice done by the company, Sudarshan started his bicycle journey to get his dues. He rode from his native village to Hyderabad in three days, a board clipped to his bicycle, stating that his company had cheated him. He visited the firm's corporate headquarters in Hyderabad, and returned with his complete settlement.

"This was in December 2020. After this, I started leading a nomadic life. I aim to cover all districts in the country on my bicycle. My journey has taken me to several interesting places. I have so far covered all districts of 12 states. I used to visit schools during my rides and give talks on sustainable living and eco-friendly practices. During this time, I happened to visit my old school, 'Sri Kariyamba High School' in Kariyammana Hatti village in Chitradurga. This is the institution where my father, brother and I studied," he explained. During his visit, he was made aware that the government-aided school lacked proper infrastructure.

Cycling for a cause

Sudarshana DT on one of his tours

Returns as a Samaritan

"The school has a high number of students from the SC-ST community who are financially weak. To ensure the kids attend school regularly, a team of teachers pooled in funds and bought a mini van to help ferry students to and from school. However, we need better infrastructure to facilitate the education of over 100 students. Sudarshan has assured us help in this regard. It is inspirational to see our student come back as a Samaritan," said Nagaraj, headmaster of the institution. The school located in the interior part of Chitradurga plays a major role in shaping the future of the younger generation.

"The institution does not accept donations but is helping hundreds of students. I approached several companies, seeking help to revive the school. However, I did not get a positive response. That is when I decided to raise funds on my own," shared Sudarshan. He tied up with a website that helps him raise funds online, and started his bicycle ride from Bengaluru to Singapore, urging his followers on social media to donate for the cause.

"I rode from Bengaluru to Kolkata and caught a flight to Hanoi. From Hanoi, I cycled across six countries to reach Singapore, and covered 1,000km on my bicycle. Alongside promoting sustainable practices, I have succeeded in raising Rs 1.45 lakh funds to revive the school. We have developed a blueprint for the construction of a modern school building, and require Rs 1 crore. I am hopeful that this project will be achieved soon," he said.

A low-budget traveller, Sudarshan has garnered immense fame among his followers on social media, and hopes to start an NGO to help the education sector. "I don't push myself to get followers on social media. I am not here to influence others but to live my life to the fullest, while also giving back to society," he said. He shared that cycling has helped him open up his mind and brims with positivity about reviving his old school.

Children feed stray dogs on BVK Iyengar Road

BBMP's new norms for feeding stray animals evokes mixed reaction

ADITHI MUDRADI & SAI BHAVANI M @ Bengaluru

THE new animal feeding guidelines issued by BBMP has received mixed reactions from animal activists, NGO volunteers and community members. Activists urged the BBMP to remove the first five clauses from the guidelines, stating that it questions the ability of feeders. They also urged BBMP to release sufficient funds for feeding the animals.

However, NGO volunteers welcomed the guidelines stating that it will help monitor health of pets. They also highlighted that the guidelines aimed for a balance between animal care and public.

The guidelines introduced on Thursday, included designated feeding zones, cleaning of the places post-feeding sessions, feeding animals after 5 am and before 11.30 pm among many others things. Volunteers from various animal welfare organisations have welcomed the move, seeing them as a step towards more organised and responsible feeding measures.

Disha Garge, a coordinator at NGO Bhumi that works for animal welfare, said that these guidelines issued by BBMP will help in bringing structure to the feeding process for animals. "By having designated feeding zones, we can monitor the health and well-being of the animals while ensuring that public spaces remain clean," said Disha.

However, animal activist Arun Prasad strongly opposed the guidelines, stressing the need for BBMP officials to be responsible for feeding the stray. "As BBMP is collecting wastes at the doorstep, animals are deprived of their source of food. The guidelines do not give clarity on who should take care of the animals. BBMP should make sure that the animals are well-fed."

"Children below the age of 18 years should not be allowed to handle strays, as they are unaware of the leftover food," said Naveesh Shetty, a resident of the city. He also said that people should be highly conscious while disposing waste, as sanitary napkins might cause unavoidable consequences to animals' health.

Mrinalini N, a resident, suggested the BBMP reduce the age to handle the dogs. "Children are more affectionate towards animals and this should not be taken away from them," she said. She also stressed on the need to increase animal ambulances.

Living Libraries: A retreat for nature enthusiasts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

COMMUTERS at Cubbon Park metro station were in for a treat on Saturday, as they were witness to 'Living Libraries', a unique initiative by Srishti Manipal Institute. The initiative was put up by seven students from different backgrounds, and featured an array of workshops including origami, illustration design and crochets.

Exploring the potential for metro stations to be a space for transit hubs, Srishti Manipal collaborated with Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to celebrate World Nature Conservation Day. Speaking to TNSE, Project Lead Niret Alva stated, "By co-creating a repository of tools, this programme is designed to engage audiences with the park's ecology, sparking curiosity." An award-winning documentary film about the illegal ivory trade, by Alva, was also screened. A post-movie discussion shed light on the illegal ivory trade across the country.

The event also featured workshops on creating illustrations for a poster exhibition on a sustainability forum. Three more short films focused on sustainable development goals adopted by the United Nations, were also screened.

An excited local artist Anand Rao said, "The initiative is a breath of fresh air and I am happy to see so many people come together to conserve nature through art," and added that he learnt new techniques of crochet through the workshop.

Yash Bhandari, a faculty member of Srishti Manipal gave insights on the wall paintings by the students. "Conservation of the ecology should be of utmost importance. We aim to cultivate a deeper appreciation for nature and inspire sustainable practices through creative expression and education," he said.

MYRIAD COLOURS

Participants fly designer kites at the 34th Annual State-level Kite Festival, organised by the Karnataka Janapada Parishat and Agriculture University, at GKVK in Bengaluru on Saturday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

EXPRESS READ

Poornachandra Tejaswi's 14-volume complete collection of works to be released

Bengaluru: A 14-volume complete collection of works by renowned Kannada writer KP Poornachandra Tejaswi, titled 'KP Poornachandra Tejaswi Samagra Kruthijagathu' will be released on Sunday at a two-day literary programme. 'Tejaswi Sahitya Samskruthika Habba' is organized at Ravindra Kalakshetra, by M Chandrashekar Pratishthana, Mooneswamy and Sons Publication, Poornachandra Cultural Study Centre. The collection is a mix of poems, plays, short stories and novels, written by Tejaswi. A documentry titled - Tejaswiyemba Vismaya - will be screened at the event. The event will also have a seminar on the writer's works, and an exhibition of photographs taken by Tejaswi, along with a play.

100km stretch of signal-free flyover proposed

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"VARIOUS issues, including land acquisition, for the project were discussed. All MPs and legislators expressed their support for this project," Shivakumar said.

He said that a plan for another tunnel road from East to West Bengaluru has been prepared and it will be implemented in phases.

Along with the tunnel road project, a 100-km signal-free flyover corridor has been proposed at a cost of Rs 12,000 crore, he said.

Referring to Metro rail connectivity, Shivakumar said all new lines will be on double-decker flyovers.

On shortage of water in the city, Shivakumar said the trial run of Cauvery 5th Stage water supply project is on and it will be launched on August 15.

Water will be provided by August 20. Shivakumar said that MPs, MLAs and MLCs in the city from opposition parties have extended their support to the proposed 250-metre Skydeck at Hemmigepura near Nice Road. The Skydeck will not impact traffic on Nice Road.

He said BJP MLA Ashoka suggested that Hemmigepura is an ideal location for the Skydeck project as there is a scope for widening Nice Road. Shivakumar appreciated his suggestion and said people from all parts of the city will have access to Skydeck when the peripheral ring road is ready. All suggestions given by the elected representatives will be discussed at the next cabinet meeting, Shivakumar said.

He said elections to the BBMP Council will be held after the court gives its verdict order.

Siddaramaiah's Bold Response to BJP-JD(S) Land Accusations

PICS BY NAGARAJA GADEKAL

In recent weeks, political tensions have surged in Karnataka, centering around accusations of misinformation and procedural irregularities. According to Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister of Karnataka, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Janata Dal (Secular) [JD(S)] have been misleading the Governor's office regarding land transactions and administrative procedures.

The Allegations

According to the chief minister, at the heart of the controversy are allegations that the BJP and JD(S) have provided false information in their memorandums to the Governor. Congress spokespersons, aligned with the Chief Minister, have publicly accused the opposition of attempting to mislead the public by misrepresenting details about land purchases, conversions, and subsequent transfers. They have demanded a thorough examination of the facts surrounding these transactions.

The Land Transactions

One of the central issues involves the purchase of land by B.M. Mallikarjuna. The BJP and JD(S) have questioned whether Mallikarjuna acquired this land lawfully and whether the PTC Act (Public Trust Constitution Act) applied. In the press conference, the chief minister shed shed light on this matter:

■On August 2, 1935, Ninga, S/o Javara, applied for land at the Mysore Taluk Office. An auction notice for the land was issued on September 26, 1935, with the auction conducted on October 3, 1935. The land, measuring 3.16 acres, was sold for a nominal amount. The transaction was finalised and confirmed on October 13, 1935.

■The land, acquired through auction, became self-acquired property, exempting it from the PTC Act. Legal precedents support this interpretation, affirming that the government holds no vested interest in such land acquisitions.

Permissions and Heirs

The BJP and JD(S) have questioned whether the land purchase required government permission and why certain heirs were excluded from the transaction. Historical documents clarify that:

■Since the land was not categorised under the PTC Act, government permission was not required. This fact is well-understood by those familiar with legal procedures.

■The family tree created in 1993 shows that Mr. Ning Bin Javar had three children. Documents indicate that land transactions involving these heirs were conducted legally, with all necessary consents and signatures obtained.

De-notification and Development

Another significant point of contention is the development and de-notification of land. The BJP claimed that no proposals for de-notification were submitted. However:

■The land acquisition process began with a preliminary notification on September 18, 1992, but was not completed for several years. By August 1996, G. Devaraju applied to relinquish the land. The final notification occurred on August 20, 1997, with the decision to denotify based on recommendations from various committees.

■Since 1984, the Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA) has relinquished 235.30 acres across 13 schemes. The process of de-notification, which involved thorough reviews and approvals, was completed in 1998.

Legal and Administrative Procedures

Questions have arisen about the legality of de-notification and the sale of developed land. According to legal standards:

■Land acquisition is not deemed complete until full compensation is paid and possession is taken. The land in question was relinquished in 1998, and MUDA did not take possession.

■The sale of developed or partially developed land follows specific legal procedures. The implementation of a 50:50 scheme for alternative land provision was reviewed and updated in recent years, adhering to legal and administrative protocols.

Political Repercussions

The controversy has become a battleground for political maneuvering. The Congress party has accused the BJP and JD(S) of exploiting minor issues for political gain. In response, an inquiry commission under Justice P.N. Desai has been established to investigate these claims thoroughly.

The chief minister has emphasised that as the political climate remains charged, the request for the Governor's advice on the matter highlights the ongoing tension and the need for impartial examination of the facts. "The documents related to these transactions, now made available to the public, aim to shed light on the complex interplay of legal, administrative, and political factors," he stated.

"In recent weeks, the BJP and JD(S) have been accused of misleading the Governor's office with false information regarding land transactions. Let me be clear: my career and actions are an open book, unblemished by any wrongdoing. The accusations about land purchases, permissions, and de-notification are baseless and politically motivated. These parties, stung by their electoral defeats, are engaging in petty politics to tarnish my reputation. Despite their efforts, the truth is evident in the documents we've made public. The Governor and the people of Karnataka deserve a transparent investigation into these false claims."

'My Career is an Open Book'

In a candid press conference recently, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah addressed the burgeoning controversy surrounding the MUDA site allotment issue. With a resolute demeanor, Siddaramaiah likened his life to an "open book" and characterized his political career as "unblemished" over the past 40 years. He firmly rejected the accusations of impropriety being leveled by the BJP and JD(S), accusing these parties of disseminating "malicious falsehoods."

Siddaramaiah elaborated on the allegations concerning the alternate site allotment to his wife, Parvati. He denounced the claims as "baseless," attributing them to the opposition's "desperate" attempts to exact revenge following their electoral defeats. "The opposition parties, stung by their losses in the recent elections, are engaging in petty politics," he asserted.

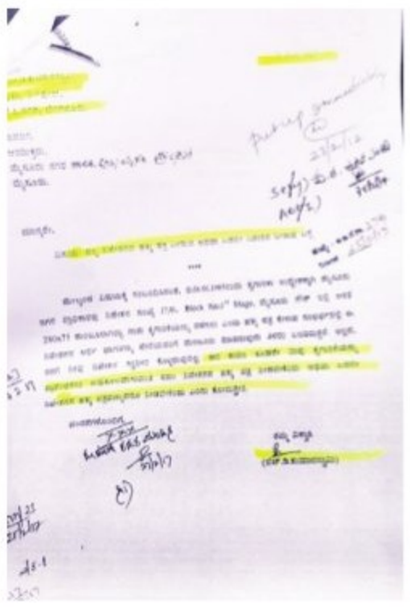
Reflecting on his extensive political journey, Siddaramaiah noted, "Since being elected as an MLA in 1983 and subsequently serving as a minister, Deputy Chief Minister, and Chief Minister for two terms, I have maintained an impeccable record." He lamented that despite his transparent and principled governance, the BJP and JD(S) are unable to tolerate his second term as Chief Minister. "Their unrelenting efforts to tarnish my reputation stem from their inability to accept my continued leadership," he stated.

Under Siddaramaiah's leadership, the Congress party secured a decisive victory with 136 seats in the assembly elections. In contrast, despite their alliance, the BJP and JD(S) failed to make significant gains in the parliamentary elections. Siddaramaiah suggested that this electoral disappointment has driven them to engage in vindictive politics, attempting to undermine his administration's credibility.

He vehemently denied any wrongdoing on his part, or by his wife or brother-in-law, B M Mallikarjuna Swamy. "MUDA's illegal occupation of the land we purchased through legitimate means has been addressed with the allocation of alternate plots," he explained. He accused the BJP and JD(S) of fabricating lies to besmirch his family's name and to tarnish the government's image.

Amid the state's ongoing battle with severe rains and flooding, Siddaramaiah criticized the opposition for diverting attention from these critical issues. "While the assembly session should focus on the pressing matters of the floods, the opposition is squandering time by raising issues related to the Valmiki Development Corporation and MUDA," he said. The Chief Minister expressed his frustration over the opposition's obstructive tactics, which he claimed disrupt substantive discussions on urgent state matters.

Kumaraswamy's Land Allotment Drama



Kumaraswamy requesting for alternative site in Mysore South from Commissioner, Mysore Visvesvaraya Industrial Suburb

Allegations surrounding former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy's involvement in a land allotment controversy linked to the Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA) have resurfaced, igniting political tensions in Karnataka. According to CMO, the controversy primarily revolves around claims that Kumaraswamy, along with other political figures, benefited from the MUDA's alternate site allotment scheme, which has been criticised for its alleged irregularities.

The MUDA alternate site allotment scheme was established to provide land to individuals who lost their properties due to urban development projects. However, recent investigations have suggested that the scheme may have been misused to benefit individuals who did not qualify, including politicians and their families.

Allegations indicate that high-value sites were allocated under this scheme, raising concerns about transparency and fairness in the allotment process. Kumaraswamy, who is also the Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel, has been accused of being a beneficiary of this scheme. The Congress party has claimed that he sought alternate sites from MUDA, which they argue implicates him in the ongoing investigation into the authority's operations. However, Kumaraswamy and his party, the Janata Dal (Secular) [JD(S)], have vehemently denied these allegations. S.R. Mahesh, a JD(S) leader, stated that while Kumaraswamy did apply for an alternate site in 1985, the plot he was initially allocated was given to someone else, leading him to seek another site, which he did not receive.

Political Repercussions

The controversy has led to a war of words between Kumaraswamy and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar. Kumaraswamy accused Shivakumar of orchestrating the exposure of the MUDA irregularities as part of a political strategy to undermine Siddaramaiah.

He suggested that the timing of the allegations, which have gained traction recently, was suspicious and aimed at destabilising the ruling government.

In response, Shivakumar dismissed Kumaraswamy's claims as baseless and suggested that the former Chief Minister was losing his grip on reality. The ongoing feud highlights the intense political rivalry in Karnataka, particularly as the state prepares for upcoming elections.

Investigation and Future Implications

The Karnataka government has put a hold on all MUDA site allocations pending an investigation into the alleged irregularities. This decision came after various complaints and reports indicated that the MUDA had continued to allocate sites despite warnings from the Urban Development department regarding the legality of the scheme.

Critics, including opposition leaders, have called for a thorough investigation into the MUDA's operations and the involvement of various political figures in the alleged scam. They argue that the misuse of the alternate site allotment scheme has resulted in significant financial losses for the state and undermines public trust in the government.

As the investigation unfolds, the implications for Kumaraswamy and other implicated leaders could be significant, potentially affecting their political careers and the stability of the current government in Karnataka.

The situation remains fluid, with ongoing developments expected as more information comes to light.

"Grant of our property was fair and legal"

In a recent press briefing, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah took a firm stance to address and refute the allegations surrounding the land allotment issue involving his wife. Siddaramaiah's defense highlights not only his commitment to legal integrity but also his dedication to ensuring that his family's property rights were respected under the law.

Siddaramaiah clarified that his wife originally owned 3.16 acres of land, which was a gift from her brother. However, the land was compromised when the Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA) developed layouts on it without formally acquiring the property. This action effectively deprived his family of their land, prompting them to seek rightful compensation.

In response to the controversy, Siddaramaiah explained that the alternative land allocation, which some have criticized, was part of a scheme implemented during the BJP's tenure. This "50:50 ratio" scheme was designed to offer landowners, whose properties were affected by urban development projects, a fair compensation by providing them with developed plots equivalent to half the value of their original land. Siddaramaiah stressed that his family did not request specific locations for the alternative land; the site allocations were determined by MUDA officials, not by him or his wife.

Siddaramaiah expressed frustration over the claims made by the BJP, who have alleged that his wife received an alternative plot in a prime Mysuru location, suggesting it was part of a larger scam costing the state approximately Rs 4,000 crore.

He firmly denied these allegations, stating that the process followed was completely lawful and consistent with state regulations.

He questioned, "Should we lose our property? Shouldn't MUDA give us our land legally?"—underlining his belief that his family's request for rightful compensation was both justified and procedurally correct.

The Chief Minister's defense highlights his commitment to upholding fairness and transparency. He asserts that the actions taken were within legal boundaries and aimed at rectifying an injustice when his family's property was improperly utilised for development without proper compensation. Siddaramaiah's resolute stance not only addresses the current controversy but also reaffirms his adherence to the principles of legal propriety and respect for landowners' rights.

In the face of political attacks and heated debates, Siddaramaiah remains focused on ensuring that his family's case is seen in the light of legality and fairness, rather than being overshadowed by partisan politics. His explanation aims to clarify misunderstandings and highlight the legal and procedural aspects of the land allotment process, reinforcing his commitment to just governance and accountability.

Assets Allocated in Mysuru

Land Allotments to Individuals

HD Kumaraswamy
Relation: Son
Location: Industrial Area, 3rd Stage
Site No.: 17B
Area: 300x300 feet
Year of Allotment: 1984

Jayamma w/o Honnappa
Relation: Mother-in-law of his first son
Location: Saraswathipura
Site No.: 1796
Area: 50x70 feet
Year of Allotment: 1984

Prameela, D/o of Javaregowda
Relation: Sister
Location: Saraswathipura, 4th Block
Site No.: 211
Area: 40x50 feet
Year of Allotment: 1984

Susheelamma, Daughter of Wife's Sister (Minor)
Location: Saraswathipura, 4th Block
Site No.: 726/H
Area: 40x60 feet
Year of Allotment: 1984

Dharmapal
Relation: Close Relative
Location: Saraswathipura, 4th Block
Site Nos.: 935, 932
Area: 40x60 feet
Year of Allotment: 1984

B C Hemavathi
Relation: Close Relative
Location: Saraswathipura, 4th Block
Site No.: 79
Area: 40x60 feet
Year of Allotment: 1984

B L Shankar
Relation: Supporter
Location: Bannimantapa
Site No.: 1199
Area: 50x80 feet
Year of Allotment: 1984

M Rajendra
Relation: Close Relative
Location: Mysuru
Site No.: 1799
Area: 50x80 feet
Year of Allotment: 1984

K P Susheela
Relation: Close Relative
Location: T Block, Jayanagar
Site No.: 352/N
Area: 50x60 feet
Year of Allotment: 1984

Pushpavathi
Relation: Close Relative
Location: T Koppalu, Mysuru
Site No.: 158
Area: 30x40 feet
Year of Allotment: 1984

Land Allotments to Opposition Leaders

C N Manjegowda
Village: Hinkal
Survey No.: 337
Area: 1 acre

G T Devegowda
Village: Eranagere
Survey No.: 14/1
Area: 2 acres and 25 guntas

G T Devegowda
Village: Madagalli
Survey No.: 17
Area: 1 acre

C N Manjegowda
Village: Devanur
Survey No.: 91
Area: 2 acres and 25 guntas

U N Shekhar
Village: Nachanahalli
Survey Nos.: 20 and 24
Area: 1 acre and 26 guntas

C N Manjegowda
Village: Kesare
Survey No.: 450
Area: 4 acres and 15 guntas

H Vishwanath
Village: Belavetta
Survey No.: 32
Area: Half gunta

Gangaraju
Village: Hutagalli
Survey No.: 40/1
Area: 1.50 guntas

Gangaraju
Village: Kuppaluru
Survey No.: 36/1
Area: 16 guntas

C N Manjegowda
Village: Mysuru
Survey No.: 86
Area: 7 acres and 8 guntas

Ju. Mahadevaswamy
Village: Hinkal
Survey Nos.: 255/1 and 257
Area: 34 guntas

BGS
Village: Malalavadi
Survey No.: 7/1A
Area: 11 guntas

Ju. Shivakumar
Village: Ayyajanahundi
Survey No.: 16
Area: 9 guntas

Sa Ra Mahesh
Village: Dattagalli
Survey No.: 130-3
Area: 9 guntas

Sa Ra Mahesh
Village: Bogadi
Survey Nos.: 170, 171, 173
Area: 2 acres and 11 guntas

JDS MLA GT Devegowda has said that a defamation case will be filed against Urban Development Minister Byrathi Suresh for making baseless allegations that he had received 1 acre in Madagalli village

BJP-JDS coordination panel meet likely today; NDA padayatra conspiracy to not let BC leader remain CM: Minister

MUDA probe worries pvt layout developers, babus

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

THE Karnataka government has constituted a one-man commission headed by retired Justice PN Desai to conduct a probe into the alleged scam in Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA), which is a worry not only for MUDA officials but private developers as well, as the probe will include layouts developed from 2007 to July 15, 2024. The probe will be carried out over six months.

The committee will look into administrative decisions, government approvals and matters related to approval of layouts, land acquisition, notification and denotification, change of sites and allotment of developed sites under 50:50 ratio, to throw light on alleged scams involving MUDA. It will also look into decisions taken by MUDA chairmen in recent years.

The MUDA 'land scam' surfaced and caught the attention of the government and public after previous Deputy Commissioner KV Rajendra shot off a letter to the government on allotment of sites to landlosers under 50:50 scheme, when the government turned down the proposal by MUDA.

The Authority, which has not given much time for development of layouts to meet the people's aspirations of owning a plot in Mysuru city, has approved the development of 1,500 layouts across the city. MUDA has developed a few layouts, including Lalithadarinagar, Vasanth Nagar, Shanthaveere Gopalagowda Nagar, Lal Bahadur Shastri Nagar, Vijayanagar Fourth Stage, Sathagalli, Devanoor and RT Nagar.

MUDA hit the headlines after opposition parties raised a storm over the allotment of 14 sites to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife Parvathi in an upmarket area, for giving up 3.16 acres in Devanoor Layout. Allegations and counter-allegations from ruling and opposition parties have continued.

In many private layouts, developers have failed to provide basic amenities like roads, drinking water, streetlights and parks, but have managed to get all sites released from MUDA and sold them to the public. In a few layouts, developers have formed sites in areas meant for parks and civic amenities, and sold them, despite it being brought to the notice of the authorities.

These fraudulent activities by developers and MUDA authorities impact residents, who suffer as the layouts are not maintained by the developer, local panchayats or city corporation. Sources said a change of sites has been done quietly in MUDA, and there are also cases of a few people managing to get sites in upmarket Vijayanagar on the pretext of losing land to MUDA in the 1970s.

In a few cases, one site under the change of site scheme has been allotted to two applicants, making them run from pillar to post. Meanwhile, a few concerned citizens have decided to furnish documents before the one-man panel probing the scam, to expose the irregularities and fraudulent sales carried out by private developers.

SIDDU'S SUPPORTERS ALL SET TO COUNTER BJP-JDS PADAYATRA

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Bengaluru

WITH the Opposition BJP and JDS all set to take out a 10-day padayatra from Bengaluru to Mysuru demanding Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's resignation over the alleged scams in the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) and ST Corporation, CM's supporters are gearing up to counter the padayatra.

BJP and JDS are likely to hold a coordination committee meeting, headed by former chief minister BS Yediyurappa and Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy, on Sunday to draw up a blueprint for their padayatra, BJP sources told *The New Sunday Express*.

Meanwhile, Kumaraswamy's son and JDS state youth wing president Nikhil Kumaraswamy held a discussion with his party leaders in Ramanagara on Saturday. Addressing JDS workers in Mysuru, Nikhil said his party is fighting against the "misdeeds" of the State Government both inside and outside the legislature. He said funds meant for the welfare of SCs/STs were diverted for other schemes.

Nikhil further said that the JDS will continue its fight till Siddaramaih resigns.

To counter the opposition move, Cooperation Minister KN Rajanna, considered a staunch supporter of Siddaramaiah, warned that protests will be launched across Karnataka against the NDA's padayatra. Rajanna, talking to media persons in Tumakuru, echoed the feelings of Siddaramaiah who has been alleging that BJP and JDS have hatched a conspiracy to tarnish his image by blowing out of proportion a non-issue, like the alleged scam in MUDA.

"It is a conspiracy to not let a backward community leader continue in the CM's chair and the Union Government is also part of it. It is an insult to AHINDAs," Rajanna thundered.

In the meantime, activists led by Karnataka State Backward Classes Action Committee chief KS Shivaramu in Mysuru on Friday launched a postcard protest against BJP seeking a reply from its leaders for the alleged scams during its regime.

DyCM and KPCC president DK Shivakumar had warned on Friday that Congress will expose BJP during its padayatra by highlighting scams committed under its rule.

(With inputs from Mysuru)

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah hears grievances from people in Mysuru on Saturday

> **Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has given an explanation on the entire Mysuru Urban Development Authority controversy and still the BJP wants to protest. BJP leaders can protest if they want to, but the Congress will reply to them**
>
> Satish Jarkiholi, PWD Minister

Govt caught in crisis; Governance could take a hit

THE monsoon session of the state legislature that ended earlier this week became a casualty of the bellicose political climate in Karnataka. It ended up as a platform for continued political tussle, which is getting fiercer by the day.

Many bills and important resolutions — including those against the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), "One Nation One Election" and impending delimitation of Lok Sabha constituencies based on the census to be conducted in 2026 or after that — were passed in the assembly and council amid din, and without any discussions.

At the core of the political controversy that pushed the Congress government into a tight spot are the multi-crore financial irregularities in the Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation, a state government undertaking, and the alleged irregularities at Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA), that allotted 14 sites to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife.

The Enforcement Directorate's (ED) ongoing probe into the Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation scam has raised hackles in the ruling dispensation. The apprehension in the Congress camp was on display when five ministers addressed a joint press conference to warn the Centre against using the ED to destabilise the state government.

It was followed by the CM, deputy chief minister, ministers and legislators staging a protest near the Mahatma Gandhi statue on the premises of Vidhana Soudha against the central agency. Although it is not unusual for the opposition leaders to make allegations against central agencies, the CM himself sitting in dharna — that too when the assembly was in session — showed the unease in the Congress camp.

Hours before that protest, the state police registered an FIR against the ED officers based on a complaint by a state government official. The official who was called for questioning accused the central agency officers of threatening and forcing him to name the CM and ministers. The High Court has stayed the FIR against the ED officers.

Perhaps those in power should show more political sagacity while reacting to such situations. If the central agency is resorting to an arm-twisting strategy, the state should take it up at an appropriate platform and seek a more transparent probe instead of jumping the gun to make it a State vs Centre issue.

While the state government has already admitted to financial irregularities in the Corporation, the efforts should be to get to the bottom of the case to hold those responsible accountable and prevent such wrongdoings. The probe should not be politicised by anyone, be it Congress or BJP, State or Union Government.

That is easier said than done given the nature of the case and those allegedly involved. The ongoing separate probes by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed by the state government, the ED and the CBI are likely to throw more light on the murky dealings. The buzz in political circles is that the nature of revelations or even the course of investigation could cause uproar in the political circles in the state.

In the MUDA issue, the CM and his team seem to be battling to stave off any damage to his image. In the assembly, the opposition was not allowed to discuss the issue as a judicial probe has been ordered to look into it. The BJP questioned the timing of ordering the judicial probe as it was done just a day before the session started. The BJP and JDS legislators staged an overnight dharna in the assembly and created a ruckus during the proceedings, forcing the session to be cut short by a day.

After the session, opposition BJP-JDS have continued to mount pressure on the government. They are planning a massive padayatra from Bengaluru to Mysuru. In July 2010, Siddaramaiah had led Congress' 320-km-long padayatra from Bengaluru to Ballari against BJP leaders' involvement in the alleged illegal iron ore mining.

On its part, Congress vowed to expose the scams during the BJP and JD(S) reigns in the state. Meanwhile, Karnataka boycotted the NITI Aayog meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday, protesting against the Centre not considering the state's requests made in the pre-budget meetings.

The continued confrontation could have an impact on the Centre-State relations, perhaps also on the flow of funds and projects. The uncertainty in the political situation in the state — or even such a perception — will send a wrong message to officials, especially lower bureaucracy, thereby impacting governance. The Karnataka model of governance, which the Congress was talking about before the Lok Sabha polls, will take a backseat if the government is bogged down by crisis after crisis.

Claiming that the recent Union Budget did allocate enough funds for Karnataka, Congress Seva Dal workers protest by carrying empty vessels outside KPCC office in Bengaluru on Saturday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Didn't give recommendation letter for sites under 50:50 scheme, says JDS neta

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

JDS leader and former minister SR Mahesh on Saturday said that if the 3.16 acre land in Kesare, owned by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife Parvathi, does not come under Karnataka Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prohibition of Transfer of Certain Lands) Act 1978 and if the land was developed by MUDA without acquisition, then alternative sites can be allotted to a land loser.

Mahesh told reporters that the law is equal to everyone. "Siddaramaiah, HD Kumaraswamy and I are all farmers. I don't say that everything is right in MUDA, but it should be probed," he said.

On Urban Development Minister Byrathi Suresh's allegation that Mahesh had sent recommendation letters to MUDA to allot alternative sites under the 50:50 scheme to individuals, the JDS leader said he had not given any recommendation letter. "If Suresh releases the recommendation letters, I will return the sites to MUDA and if the sites are sold by individuals, I will purchase them and return them to the authority. Suresh said I have nine gunta land in Dattagalli and 2.11 acres in Bogadi. I will file an RTI application to know owners of these pieces of land as I don't own them. I had served as MUDA chairman and I know the political leaders who got sites from the authority. But I cannot reveal their names without documents," he said.

"When HD Kumaraswamy was CM, Kantharaju was MUDA commissioner. Around 10,000 sites were identified, and an investigation must be conducted to know the status of those sites. Suresh mentioned the names of BJP and JDS leaders who got sites. But Congress MLA Tanveer Sait, who is a MUDA member, should reveal the names of Congress leaders who have received sites," he said.

> **Siddaramaiah, HD Kumaraswamy and I are all farmers. I don't say that everything is right in MUDA, but it should be probed**
>
> SR Mahesh, JDS leader and former minister

> **JDS is fighting against the misdeeds of the State Government both inside and outside the legislature. Funds meant for the welfare of SCs/STs were diverted for other schemes**
>
> Nikhil Kumaraswamy, JDS leader

> **CM & DyCM's visit to Delhi has nothing to do with the scams or the politics around it. It is a pre-planned visit to meet Union Ministers to discuss Karnataka's pending projects**
>
> Sources

AMIDST SCAM ATTACK, CM, DYCM TO VISIT DELHI

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

AT a time when the BJP and JDS are sharpening their attack on Chief Minister Siddaramaiah over the alleged scams in MUDA and ST Corporation, the two-time CM will visit New Delhi along with Deputy CM DK Shivakumar on July 29.

Informed sources told *The New Sunday Express* that their visit to the National Capital has nothing to do with the scams or the politics around it. "It is a pre-planned visit with prior appointments with the Union Ministers to discuss Karnataka's pending projects," sources added.

But sources added that the duo is likely to meet the Congress high command leaders, including AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, and apprise them of the political situation in the state that has arisen owing to the alleged scams in MUDA and ST Corporation.

The repercussions of these issues on the Congress' image in Karnataka and the State Government are likely to come up for discussion, sources added. Siddaramaiah will be accompanied by a few of his cabinet colleagues, mainly his staunch supporters.

The visit of chief minister and deputy chief minister assumes significance in the wake of the BJP and JDS MPs protesting outside the Parliament to draw the nation's attention. The BJP and JDS have already petitioned Karnataka Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot, urging him to direct Siddaramaiah to resign.

ALL FOR GROWTH

Let us keep politics aside to build a better Bengaluru, DKS tells city MPs, MLAs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

DEPUTY Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister DK Shivakumar on Saturday urged legislators and MPs from all parties in the city to join hands with the State Government in building a better Bengaluru.

"Let's keep politics aside and work together to build a better Bengaluru," he said at a "Public Voice-Government Voice" programme held at Vidhana Soudha to discuss the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill and issues concerning Bengaluru.

Legislators and MPs, cutting across party lines, from Bengaluru participated in it.

"There is nothing to worry about the Bill. You can study the Bill thoroughly and give suggestions. We have taken all steps to build a better and safer Bengaluru. We have decided to form a House committee to look into the Bill," Shivakumar said.

"Elected representatives from opposition parties are here and if you can recommend names from your side, we will form the House committee this evening (Saturday) itself. We are open for discussions. Let us know your thoughts," he said.

"We are trying to give a new shape to the IT city. Kempe Gowda built Bengaluru, Kengal Hanumanthaiah built Vidhana Soudha and SM Krishna made Bengaluru a global city. The city is growing rapidly and we need to take quick actions to ensure orderliness," he said.

"Migrants are settling down here in large numbers. The BJP government brought 110 villages around Bengaluru under BBMP limits, but they are yet to get amenities. Water is a major issue and we have no choice but to recharge groundwater," the DyCM said.

"We all are aware of garbage and traffic issues. Civic officials are trying to tackle them. We have received 70,000 suggestions from the public on improving Bengaluru and we are using them. TDR has become a big issue and we will soon come up with a new system," he said. "There are not many tourist spots in the city. That is why we have decided to build a skydeck," he said.

Shivakumar released a booklet on Brand Bengaluru during the programme along with Leader of Opposition in the Assembly R Ashoka and BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath.

> **There is nothing to worry about the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill. You can study the Bill thoroughly and give suggestions**
>
> DyCM DK Shivakumar to legislators from Bengaluru

DyCM DK Shivakumar in conversation with BJP leaders R Ashoka, Dr CN Ashwathnarayan, and Byrathi Basavaraj, in Bengaluru on Saturday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

14-year-old Pranali Undre, who had symptoms of dengue, died in the Belagavi Institute of Medical Sciences (BIMS), on Saturday. A resident of Honaga village, Belagavi taluk, Pranali was admitted to BIMS on Friday. She had been displaying symptoms of dengue, and was suffering from continuous fever. She died while undergoing treatment on Saturday morning

Beware! The 2Ps in non-seasonal fruits could be killing you

RISHITA KHANNA @ Bengaluru

FROM watermelon, green and black grapes to bright red apples, the allure of fresh fruits is no longer confined to their natural growing seasons. However, as these vibrant produce become available year-round, experts warn that non-seasonal fruits often contain higher levels of pesticides and preservatives, and consuming them can be risky.

While it is typically believed that some fruits are easy to grow in the state because of easy adaptation to diverse soil types, agri-experts highlight that fruits like strawberries, grapes, and apples cannot be grown without the use of preservatives, and advanced storage techniques.

A horticulture expert explained that while many believe that exotic fruits, especially dragon fruit is grown with minimal use of preservatives, as its thick skin helps protect the fruit during transport and storage, in reality, the local climate is not supportive for production and storage of these fruits, and can be maintained only with preservatives.

Experts highlight hidden health risks, in off-season fruits, as they lack nutritional value compared to their seasonal counterparts.

Consultant Dietician at Motherhood Hospitals Dr Reenu Dubey explained that off-season fruits are often subjected to heavy preservation methods including use of pesticides, fungicides, and artificial ripening agents, which can lead to allergies, infections, and gastrointestinal problems.

"Chemicals used in preservation process can cause short-term side effects such as headaches, dizziness, and nausea. Long-term consumption may result in chemical accumulation in the body, contributing to chronic diseases like cancer and endocrine disorders," she added.

Additionally, non-seasonal fruits are typically harvested before they are fully ripe, resulting in lower nutritional value and potential deficiencies in essential vitamins and minerals, which can adversely affect health and immunity, she added.

Dr Reenu stressed that artificial ripening agents such as calcium carbide present serious health hazards including neurological disorders and respiratory problems. To maintain freshness and appearance during transport, these fruits are coated with wax, and preservatives which can lead to digestive issues and lead to accumulation of toxic substance if consumed for a long period of time.

Fortis Hospital Dietician Bharathi Kumar explained that while the residues are usually minimal and regulated, they are a cause of concern. She also highlighted that the environmental impact of these practices is significant, as off-season fruits are transported to far off places, leading to a more carbon footprint.

Woman arrested for cheating 16 tenants

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A 45-year-old woman was arrested by Chandra Layout police for cheating 16 of her tenants. The woman owns a residential apartment complex with 16 flats. She has leased out all the flats and earns close to Rs 1 crore.

The accused, Sudha, who owns a five-storeyed apartment complex in Gangondanahalli, had taken a loan on the property and turned defaulter. Bank officials visited the apartment on July 11 to seize the property. They also asked the tenants to vacate their houses.

When tenants demanded their money back from Sudha, she allegedly started giving reasons and sought time to return their lease amount. Sudha is also accused of threatening the tenants for forcing her to return their money. Further investigations are on.

Dog meat or not? Samples to be tested, FSSAI to verify licences

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

FOLLOWING reports of animal meat being transported via trains into the city, the State Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) conducted an inspection at the city central railway station, with the help of the city police.

Officials found 90 parcels containing meat being loaded into a transport vehicle on the outer premises of the railway station. The parcels had arrived from Rajasthan. Samples of the meat were collected, and sent to a food laboratory to determine the type of animal meat.

Puneeth Kerehalli, founder of Rashtra Rakshana Pade -- a self-styled Hindutva Organisation, had protested at the railway station on Friday, alleging that stale meat mixed with dog meat was being distributed to restaurants across the city.

Responding to the allegations, state FSSAI Commissioner Srinivas K said strict legal action will be taken against anyone involved in any cases of mixing meat. The department is also gathering detailed information about the FSSAI licence of both the senders and recipients of these parcels. The regulatory body stated that any discrepancies in the licences or any other regulatory breach will result in legal actions in accordance with established regulations. "The FSSAI has already sent notices to 12 sellers operating without licenses, and are investigating as per the Food Safety Act. Next plan of action will be determined based on the laboratory analysis results," he added.

Cow vigilante collapses at police station

The Cottonpet police arrested cow vigilante Puneeth Kerehalli for creating ruckus outside the city railway station, claiming that stale meat from Rajasthan mixed with dog meat was being sold at mutton shops in the city. He was arrested on charges of obstructing a government officer from discharging his duty. But around 4.45 am on Saturday, Kerehalli reportedly collapsed inside the station. The police rushed him to KC General Hospital, and from there, shifted him to the Victoria Hospital. On Friday night, the police picked up Kerehalli for triggering chaos outside the KSR railway station's second entry near Okalipuram. Kerehalli, founder of Rashtra Rakshana Pade -- a self-styled Hindutva Organisation, was protesting, claiming that 90 cartons of meat that were seized by officials were being sent to Russell Market and other mutton stalls by mixing dog meat. Related to the meat incident at the city railway station, three separate FIRs have been registered -- for transporting meat, protesting near railway station, and obstructing government officer from discharging his duty.

ROYAL RITUALS

Members of the erstwhile Mysuru royal family - Pramoda Devi Wadiyar, and MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar - offer special pooja as part of Sri Chamundeshwari Vardhanthi Mahotsava atop Chamundi Hills, on Saturday | UDAYASHANKAR S

BBMP unveils app to identify potholes

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has set aside Rs 33.75 crore to fix potholes in Bengaluru, and has launched a mobile App –"Road Pothole Alert" with a streamlined technology to transparently identify potholes in the city, and will initiate repair to be completed within a stipulated time frame.

The idea of a tech-based solution to fix potholes, is to avoid extra expenditure that normally occurs, due to rough estimation and to eliminate human error. The Palike road infrastructure officials observed that the roads are damaged due to the installation of Bescom cables and BWSSB, and GAIL pipes.

According to officials, Bengaluru city has a road network of about 12,878 km, of which, about 1,344.84 km are arterial and sub-arterial roads and 11,533.16 km are zonal roads. "The roads develop potholes as they are dug up regularly, by other civic agencies. Hence, as a long-term solution, the palike has taken to white topping on major roads, and has appealed other agencies to conduct a survey of their work, and share the data with BBMP. Once the roads are taken up for white topping, no permission will be given for digging," said an official.

SOFTWARE FEATURES

- Software supports both Kannada and English
- Location and photos of potholes can be uploaded
- Public can track the status via the complaint number
- An engineer is allotted to complete the task within the stipulated time

Deputy CM and Bengaluru Development Minister DK Shivakumar and BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath had directed officials to identify all the roads under the corporation's jurisdiction, and accurately determine the potholes that may fall on the said roads. Mark the latitude and longitude of the potholelocation, on GPS, and enter the measurement of the pothole, in the mobile. Software has been developed to accurately locate the potholes, and action will be taken based on the input.

"Adapting to this software, the corporation will not only make identification of potholes and repair work transparent, but also control and accountability over pothole costs can be monitored very effectively. In the year 2024-25 Rs 33.75 crore have been earmarked for 225 wards, each ward getting Rs 15 lakh," said an official.

The "Road Pothole Alert" software also allows the public to upload potholes and seek information of its status.

Kriti advised friend to cut ties with accused

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ACCORDINGLY, he hatched a plan and allegedly stabbed Kumari to death in her PG room. Abhishek lived with his girlfriend in the city. While his girlfriend worked, he was jobless. He used to torture her for money, said a source.

When Abhishek's girlfriend revealed this, her friend and colleague Kumari advised her to get rid of him. Abhishek's girlfriend paid heed to this and ended her relationship with him. She became Kumari's roommate on July 20, the source said.

On the fateful day, Abhishek went to the PG facility at VR Layout in Koramangala in search of his ex-girlfriend. When he learnt that she was yet to return from her office, he waited there. Meanwhile, seeing Kumari entering her room, Abhishek knocked on the door.

When Kumari opened the door, he entered the room and dragged her out. He attacked Kumari with a knife, blaming her for his girlfriend's separation from him. He slit Kumari's throat and stabbed her to death, the source said.

In the CCTV footage, which has gone viral, Abhishek is seen knocking on the door and entering Kumari's room. He is also seen dragging her out and stabbing her after slitting her throat. Some inmates of the PG facility are seen making phone calls and rushing towards Kumari.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Southeast) Sarah Fathima said Abhishek, a BSc graduate, was produced before a city court which remanded him in police custody on Saturday.

EXPRESS READ

Suburban Rail: K-Ride floats tender of Corridor-1 A

Bengaluru: K-RIDE (Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Ltd) the organization implementing Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project has floated a tender for Corridor-1A from KSR Bengaluru railway station to Yelahanka railway station at a tender value of Rs 1,422 crore. Corridor 1 or the Sampige line is the Airport Corridor of BSRP connecting KSR to Devanahalli and BIAL (Airport terminal). This 41 km corridor has been divided into 2 packages - C1A from Bengaluru City to Yelahanka (18Kms), C1B - Yelahanka to Devanahalli (approx 23 kms). The tender is being funded from the European investment bank, for a contract period of 30 months, said a press release.

Bamboo cycles a solution to waste, environment, economy

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

WITH rising vehicular pollution, traffic jams, health issues, economic and ecological challenges, cycling is becoming a sought-after option. While the government is doing little to encourage cycling, communities and private companies are promoting it in residential and commercial spaces.

Around 50,000 cycles are sold in Karnataka every month, but only 5-10% of the old ones are recycled. To address the issue of scrap and to make cycling economically and ecologically viable, the Bamboo Society of India (BSI) is promoting bamboo cycles.

"The frame and body is made of hard bamboo, but the tyre rim is steel and the tyres are like that of any other cycle. Bamboo cycles are popular in other countries, but yet to make inroads into India, despite there being a huge market. Some bamboo cycles are being made and sold in Maharashtra, but not for commercial purposes," BSI Executive Director, KN Murthy told TNSE.

India produces 2-3 species of solid bamboo that are used in furniture and can be used in making cycles. One of the species is Dendrocalamus stocksii, which is grown in abundance along the Konkan coast. "If bamboo is well treated and used, these cycles have a life of 15- 20 years. Pilots have been done and we are talking to various stakeholders to start sales. They are easy to make, handle and dispose of," Murthy said.

The Institute of Wood Science and Technology has partnered with a leading multinational car company to manufacture the front-end assembly of cars using processed wood fibre and bamboo. Also, the Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute had prepared models of cycles and cars using processed wood and bamboo. But commercial operations are yet to take off.

The Karnataka Cycle Dealers' Association (KCDA) and traders association are showing interest in bamboo cycles to introduce them in educational institutions, like IIT, IISc and IIM-B where they supply regular cycles. They are also looking at tech and corporate firms for this.

KCDA president Nilesh Shah said children's cycles are sold the maximum followed by those belonging to the economically backward section. There is a considerable rise in cyclists from corporate houses. "Bamboo cycles will click as India has a very good cycling market. If the cost is affordable, they can then be tried in all segments as scrapping and disposal is a matter of concern."

Bengaluru Cycle Mayor Sathya Sankaran, also a member of the Bicycle Citizens Network, said the secondary market for the poor is picking up gradually, but there is not much recycling value.

NATA2024
NATIONAL APTITUDE TEST IN ARCHITECTURE
Council of Architecture

IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE
CONDUCT OF ADDITIONAL TESTS FOR NATA 2024

The Council of Architecture has decided to conduct additional tests for NATA 2024 on 10th & 24th August, 2024 (in two sessions) in order to provide more opportunity to eligible aspirants for admission to 1st year of 5-year B.Arch. degree programme.

The candidates qualifying in the above tests shall be considered for admission only against the vacant/ unfilled seats in the programme available at various Institutions. Centralized Admission counselling process in the states shall continue as per their respective schedules.

Registration shall commence from 28.07.2024. For further details on registration and NATA 2024, please visit the NATA website www.nata.in,

New Delhi
July 28, 2024 **Registrar**

https://www.facebook.com/CCIAssociateOfficial @ccaaicdl9056 @CouncilofArchi1 @council_of_architecture_india WWW.NATA.IN

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INDIAN INSTITUTES OF MANAGEMENT (IIMs)

Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Bangalore, Bodh Gaya, Calcutta, Indore, Jammu, Kashipur, Kozhikode, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, Raipur, Ranchi, Rohtak, Sambalpur, Shillong, Sirmaur, Tiruchirappalli, Udaipur, Visakhapatnam

COMMON ADMISSION TEST
CAT 2024

The Indian Institutes of Management will conduct a computer-based Common Admission Test 2024 (CAT 2024) on **November 24, 2024** in **three** sessions. Detailed information on CAT 2024 may be obtained from the CAT website.

CAT Website : www.iimcat.ac.in

CAT 2024 is a prerequisite for admission to various Post Graduate and Fellow/Doctorate programmes of IIMs. CAT 2024 scores are allowed to be used by listed non-IIM member institutions. A list of such institutions is provided on the CAT website. IIMs have no role in the selection process of non-IIM institutions

CAT 2024 ELIGIBILITY

Please refer to the detailed notification on the CAT website. **Applicants should note that mere fulfillment of the minimum eligibility criteria will not ensure consideration for shortlisting by IIMs.**

RESERVATIONS

Refer to the CAT website for information regarding reservation of seats for various categories of applicants.
No change in the category will be entertained after CAT registration.

REGISTRATION FEES

₹ 1250 for SC, ST and PwD category candidates.
₹ 2500 for all other categories of candidates.
Please note that a candidate needs to pay the registration fees only once, irrespective of the number of institutes he/she is applying for. Fees once paid cannot be refunded under any circumstances.

IMPORTANT DATES

Registration opens	: **August 01, 2024 (10:00am)**
Registration closes	: **September 13, 2024 (5:00 pm)**
Admit card download	: **November 05 - November 24, 2024**
Test date	: **November 24, 2024**
Result declaration	: **Second week of January, 2025 (Tentative)**

TEST CENTRES

CAT will be conducted in test centres spread across around 170 test cities. Candidates will be given the option to select any five test cities in order of their preference.
The list of cities may be subject to changes based on the discretion of the CAT authorities.

DISCLAIMER

This advertisement is only intended to be an announcement for CAT 2024. For detailed information, rules and procedures regarding CAT and the admission process of various IIMs and other updates, candidates should visit the CAT website.
Any dispute concerning CAT 2024 would be subject to the jurisdiction of the competent Courts within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Kolkata only.

IMPORTANT

Candidates must declare and maintain a valid and unique email account and a mobile phone number throughout the selection process.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client, **Sri. Naveen Kumar. H.S,** S/o Sri. Shivanankari Gowda, aged about 40 years, R/at No.570, 14th Main, Opp. Narayana Nagar 1st Block, Doddakallasandra, Bengaluru - 560 062, is intending to purchase the schedule property from **Sri. K.S. Srinivasan,** S/o Late K.R. Subramanian, aged about 66 years, R/at No.40, 4th B Main, Opp. Someshwara Nagar, Yelahanka New Town, G.K.V.K., Bengaluru-560065. Any interested person/s having any manner of right, title, interest, claim, or objections may lodge the same in writing to the below mentioned address with relevant documents in support of his claims and objections within **15 days** from the date of this public notice, failing which my client will proceed to purchase the Schedule Property treating that there are no claims over the Schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing vacant **Site No.184, in the layout formed by the Bangalore Development Authority at J.P. Nagar Layout 9th Phase, 4th Block, Bangalore, measuring East to West 12.20 meter** and North to South 9.15 meter, in all measuring 111.63 Sq. Meter, and bounded on: **East by:** Site No.189 and 190, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Site No. 183, **South by:** Site No.185.

T.D. Ramachandra, Advocate,
No.47/5, 1st Floor, Prashanth Nagar,
Opp. Vedantha PU College,
Bengaluru-560111. Mobile: 94498 25001.
Date: 27.07.2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my client Smt. NETHRA. M. W/o. Ramesh .S, intends to purchase the property mentioned in the Schedule hereunder from Sri. SATHYA. E. S/o. Thangaraju, Smt. Lavanya .S, W/o. Sathya .S, Kum. Harish. S. S/o. Sathya. S., Kum. Hariharan. S. S/o. Sathya .S, and Kum. Harini .S, D/o. Sathya .S. all are Residing at No. 71, Perumal Kovil Street, Puthiyam Siruvanur, Thirupachur, Tiruvalur, Tamil Nadu-631 203, if any members of the General Public has/have any claims over the said property it is hereby called upon to approach the undersigned with all relevant documents in support of such claims within 10 days from the date of this notice.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No. 24, Sy.No. and Khata No. 42, Chikkanayakanahalli Village, Muneshwara Layout, Halanayakanahalli Gramapanchyath, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 20 feet, total extend 600 Sq.Feet. and bounded on the :-

East by : Property bearing No. 23,
West by : Property bearing No. 25,
North by : Property bearing No. 31,
South by : Road.

M. V. PARAMESWARAPPA, Advocate,
No. 6, Neelakanteshwara Temple Road,
Moodenapalya, Bangalore-560 091.
Mobile No. 98456 58404
Ramesh. S. (M) 97411 64474

BEFORE THE HON'BLE II ND ADDL. PRL. JUDGE FAMILY COURT AT BENGALURU
M.C. NO. 711/2024

BETWEEN: Sri. Kajal Singh ...Petitioner
AND: Smt. Ranjitha Singh ...Respondent

NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To: Smt. RANJITHA SINGH, W/o. Kajal Singh, D/o. Late. Shankar Chandra Nayak, Aged about 37 Years, R/at Near Rasoolpur School, Near Sarathi Bus Stand, Mayapur, Hooghly, West Bengal State-712413.

WHEREAS the petitioner in the above petition has filed the above petition for dissolution of the marriage and the petition filed U/S. 13 (1) (i-a) of Hindu Marriage Act.

You are hereby summoned to appear in person before this Hon'ble II ND Addl. Principal Judge, Family Court, at Bengaluru.

Take Notice that in default of your appearance on the day of **30th August 2024** the petition will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Hon'ble Court on 13th DAY OF JUNE 2024.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
Sd/- Senior Sheristeder
Family Court, Bengaluru

ADVOCATE FOR THE PETITIONER
Smt. Hemalatha. P.,
Advocate & Legal Consultant,
Office at No: 12th Cross, Wilson Garden, Bengaluru-560027 Mob: 9341335279

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that our client proposes to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner **SRI.M.RAMA REDDY.**

Any person (s), having any manner of right, title, interest, claim etc., over the Schedule Property may lodge his/ her/ their/ its objections or claims in writing with all supporting documentary evidence with regard to such claims with the undersigned within **15 days** hereof, failing which, our client will proceed to complete the sale transaction. Any objections/ claims received thereafter will not be entertained/ binding on our client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the vacant residential Property bearing **Site Number 5, PID No.65-16-05,** Situated at **29th Main Road, BTM 2nd Stage, BTM Layout, Bangalore,** measuring East to West: **60 feet** and North to South: **40 Feet** and is bounded as follows, On the

East by : 60 Feet Road,
West by : Property No. 4,
North by : Property No. 16,
South by : Property No. 14.

H.K.GIRISH, ADVOCATE
M & G Associates
#73, 1st Floor, 27th Cross, 11th Main, BSK 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560 070. Phone : 080-26632343 / +91 88867044666

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that, Mr. Pradeep. T.N, Son of Nagaraj.T.N, residing at No.80, Sarawathi Nagar, Mahadevpaura, Bangalore-560 048 has lost the Original Sale Deed dated 24.02.2006, executed by V.Govindaraj in favour of A,Ambika, registered as document No.KRI-1-20170/2005-06 in Book I and stored in CD No.KRID188, in the office of Sub-registrar, K.R.Puram, Bangalore in respect of the property bearing Site No.41, carved out of property bearing Sy. No. 47, measuring East to West 50 feet and North to South 30 feet, in all measuring 1500 sq.ft of Seegehalli Village, K. R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore. A police complaint dated 23.07.2023 is lodged in this regard. If any person finds the same may kindly be delivered to the undersigned or to my client. Any person un-authorisly holding the same and dealing with the same in the respect of the above property in any manner, the same will not be binding on my clients. In this behalf if any person having any Objections or claims can lodge the same with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within Fifteen days of this Notice. Later on the same will not be entertained and my client proceed to deal with said property as his like.

Place : Bangalore
Dated : 28.07.2024

H.D.BASAPPA, Advocate
"G. R. COMPLEX", # 31, 1st Floor,
Service Road, Domlur Layout,
Bangalore-560 071
Mobile : 9986349626
E-Mail :basappahd2018@gmail.com

THE TRAVANCORE CEMENTS LIMITED

Nattakom, Kottayam-686 013.
Ph: +91-9400492975
E-mail: tcl.materials@gmail.com

Sale of "113 Are" of Land

Global e-Tenders are invited for the Sale of Land at Kakkanad, Ernakulam DT, Kerala.

For more, visit:
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.
Last date: **9.8.2024 @ 6 PM**

(Sd/-) Managing Director

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform you that, our client **SAVITA DEVI** have negotiated to purchase the schedule property mentioned infra from SMT. JAYALAKSHMI @ S.L. JAYALAKSHMI, legal owners of the schedule property, which she had purchased, through document No. BMH-1-05390/2019-20 in Book-1, CD No. BMHD994 dated 12/09/2019 in the office of Sub-Registrar, Bommanahalli (Jayangara) Bangalore South Taluk, the schedule property later came with the limits of BBMP and assessed for property taxes and assigned with B Khata No. 340/1/2 situated at Begur Road, Bommanahalli, Hongasandra, Ward No. 175 Bommanahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and Site measuring West: 24 Feet and North to South: 26 Feet in all measuring 624 Sq.Ft., and bounded by East by Chikkabbaiah S/o. Ramaswamy Property, West by Remaining portion of said property, South by Shivanna's property, North by 8 Feet Road. Any person have any objection, the proposed sale and having any rights title, charge, claim/s interest in the schedule property may file their written objection along with evidentiary proof if any, before the undersigned within 7 days from the date of this notice failing which our client shall construe that, there is no encumbrance or objections from any one, to the transactions and proceed with the completion of sale transactions any activities subsequent to this publication and execution of absolute sale deed at your own risk.

TEJASWINI M.N. Advocate
No. #3/4, 3rd Floor, Tower Block Unity Building,
Bangalore - 560002.
Ph: 7829546413 / 9620120373

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Smt. Maddineni Kanaka Durga** R/a Thimmasandra village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk confirm resident of the above address. We hereby declare that my client has Lost the below mentioned Original Sale deeds near Thimmasandra village Bus Stop on 25th July 2024.

The Document of title Original Sale deeds with respect to Sy.No's.106/5, 113 and 113/1 situated at Thimmasandra village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, This above Original Title Deeds (Mother Deed) bearing Doc.No.5471/2011-12 dated 21/10/2011, Doc.No.8347/2011-12 dated 06/02/2012 and Doc No.2679/2021-22 dated 02/07/2021, is registered in the office of the SRO, Doddaballapura Further Police complaint has been lodged on 25/07/2024 in Online bearing Lost Report.No.1162890/2024 to this effect which has been duly acknowledged. The above Public Notice is now issued. Any person having claim/in possession of the said document may represent to the under signed **within 14 days** failing which it will be taken that there are no claims.

A.Prashanth, Advocate
No.3755, SAMPRATHI, DESHADAPETE
Doddaballapur Town-561203. Mob : 9686628181.

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

NOTICE is hereby given that my client **M/s A2G Builders,** rep by its Proprietor Mrs. Ambika. A is willing to purchase the schedule property from **Mrs. Ratna Marath** w/o Late. Lt. Col. A.T. Marath being the absolute owner free from all encumbrances. Any person, authorities, Banks, Financial institute etc having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature any manner whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the below mentioned his Counsel Mr. Suresh at his office No.506, Mata Road behind Canara Bank, Vibhuthipura Ramesh Nagar, Bangalore-560037. Within 07 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

SCHEDULE:

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property bearing site Nos. 1 & 2 in Sy.No. 12/1 respectively forming part of H.A.Sanitary Board, khata No.598/3 of Vibhutipura Village, H.A. Sanitary Board Area, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Measuring East to West 60 feet, North to South 36 feet with built up area of 10x15 feet, bounded by

East by : Road, West by : Property No.3, North by : Property Nos. 11 & 12 & South by : 20 feet Road.

Contact : **Mr. Suresh**
Contact No: +919844119985

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

BTM Layout Branch, No. 28/29, 18th Main, 7th Cross, BTM II Stage, Bengaluru – 560 076, Ph.080 26784488, Mob. 9967562838,

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of BTM Layout Branch, Bengalore of the Canara Bank, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 28.08.2024** (10.30 AM to 11.30 AM), for recovery of **Rs. 11,89,05,147.29** (Rupees Eleven Crore Eighty Nine Lakhs Five Thousand One Hundred and Forty seven and paise Twenty Nine Only) as on 25.07.2024 with further interest and cost thereon due to the BTM Laout Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from

1.M/s. Y R Ramesh Reddy, S/o Sri. Ramakrishna Reddy, Office At :219, 10th C Main Road, 1st Block, Jaynagar, Bangalore – 560011
2.Guarantor and Property owner MR. A N PURUSHOTHAMA S/o: A S Narayanaswamy Residing at: No. 2, Arekere Village, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore – 560 076.
3.Guarantor poperty owner Smt K Chandrika D/o S Narayanaswamy, Residing at : No 58, Chandrika Nilaya, 3rd Main, New Kempagowda Layout, Kathri Guppe, BSK 3rd Stag, Bangalore 560 011

The Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits details are as under & the Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before **27.08.2024, 4.00 pm** by way of DD favouring **Authorized Officer Canara Bank, BTM Layout Branch** or through online payment to **Account No.209272434 (IFSC CNRB0002433)** is as under.

DETAILS AND FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY(IES)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Lot	Description of the immovable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1	All the piece and parcel of residential building bearing No. 221, A-13 Sanjeevani Nilaya House property no. 441/1 first Floor 3rd Main(10th C Main Road) First Block, Jayanagar, Presently BBMP Ward No. 62, New Ward No. 153, PID No. 62.123-44/1 Bangalore -560011 in the name of Y R Remesh Reddy. Boundaries: East by 10th C Main Road, West : Site No 72, North: Site no. 222, South: Site No. 220	480.30	48.03	1.00
2	All the piece and parcel of residential land and building situated at House No. 58. Sy No. 112/2, 113/2 and 116 of Kempegowda HBSC, Katriguppa Village(BSK third stage), Bangalore South, Bangalore 560085 in the name of K Chandrika Boundaries:East: Road, West: Site No. 53, North: Site No. 57, South: Site No. 59	207.10	20.71	1.00
3	All the piece and parcel vacant site plot no. 19, Municipal Assessment No. 109/103/19 (old No. 7/5 & 7/6), Sl No. 1060 situated at Samrat Layout, Arekere Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore in the name of A N Purushothama. Total 2887.50 sq. ft. Boundaries East: Road, West: Remaining portion of site 19, North: Private Property, South: 3 Feet passage	260.00	26.00	1.00
4	All that piece and parcel of vacant site plot no. 19, Khata Nos, 7/5 & 7/6 situated at Samrat layout , Arakere Village, Begur hobli, Bangalore south Taluk measuring 2524 Sq. ft. Boundaries: East: Road, West: Remaining portion of site no 19, North: Private property, South; 3 feet passage	227.20	22.72	1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) . or may contact **Chief Manager, BTM Layout Branch, Bangalore, Canara Bank,** Ph. No. **9967562838 and 9198356929** during office hours on any working day. Service provider **M/s Antares Systems Ltd., website:www.bankeauctionwizard.com**

Place: Bangalore
Date: 25.07.2024

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

STATE BANK OF INDIA

Home Loan Centre, Bengaluru Central,
No. 2, 1st Floor, Lady Curzone, Opp. Bowring Hospital,
Shivaji Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560051.

Shri Abhishek Kujur,
Flat No. 611, Ramana Apartments,
Plot No. 2, Sec 11, Dwarka, South West Delhi, Pin Code : 110075.
No. : HLC/BC/11/2024-25/07

Dear Sir,

STAFF SUPERVISING : Your Unauthorised Absence From Duties Since 18.07.2023

We draw your attention to our previous correspondences vide mail date 10.12.2023 and letter No. RACPC/SMR/2023-24/34, dated 09.02.2024 in the above matter.

We observe that, you have submitted your VRS on 06.05.2023 seeking relief from services on 11.09.2023. Further, you have failed to attend exit interview due to which your VRS could not be processed. Pending VRS approval, you have been absenting from duties since 18.07.2023. As such your VRS cannot be processed pending exit interview completion and non completion of exit interview.

Accordingly, your absence from duties since 18.07.2023 is considered as Unauthorised Absence. In this connection, please find attached copy of first notice vide number RACPC/SMR/2023-24/34 dated 09.02.2024 served to you under Voluntary Vacation Process. Despite you have failed to report to the duties till date.

In this backdrop, we have to advised you that you make arrangements to report to the duties within 7 days from the receipt of this letter latest by 26.07.2024 failing which, we may be constrained to serve final notice of termination under Voluntary Vacation to you.

Regards
STATE BANK OF INDIA
Assistant General Manager

ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ,
ನಂ. 101, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, ನವನಗರ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 08354-236419. ಇ-ಮೇಲ್ : dobcmbagalkote@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಜಿ.ಹಿಂ.ವ.ಕ.ಇ.ಬಾ./ಲೆಕ್ಕ/ಆಹಾರ ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್/2024-25
ದಿನಾಂಕ : 23-07-2024

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ಪೂರ್ವ ಮತ್ತು ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ನಂತರದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಹಾರ ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮದ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು **Website : kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯ ಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **26-08-2024** ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- (ಮೆಹೆಬೂಬ ಎಮ್ ತುಂಬರಮಟ್ಟಿ)
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ.

ದಿಪಪಿಆರ್/ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ/144/ಮಣಿಪಾಲ್/2024-25

Government of Karnataka Zilla Panchayat, Chitradurga

Office of The District Officer, Backward Classes Welfare Department,Chitradurga

E-mail:-dobcmchitradurga@gmail.com Ph. No:08194-235034
No.: BCWD/SH/CR-20/2024-25 Date: 26.07.2024

e-Tender Notice

Tender is invited through e-procurement from interested, eligible firms for supply of food and other material for the period of a year to Pre-Matric & Post-Matric Student Hostels and Ashrama Schools coming under the jurisdiction of Backward Classes Welfare Department, Chitradurga District , Tender No.: BCWD/2024-25/IND0127 and can participate in the Tender through e-procurement portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Name of the District:- Chitradurga. Amount put to e-Tender (Rs. in lakhs):- 3854.28 EMD Amount (Rs. in lakhs):- 38.54

Last date for submission of Tender:- 26.08.2024 up to 5.30 PM

Further information can be obtained from this office during office hours and by logging on to website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/148/2024-25

Sd/- District Officer, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Chitradurga

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)

E-TENDER NOTICE No. 07-CECNMS-2024-E-369023 Dated: 05.07.2024
E-TENDER NOTICE No. CAO-CN-MS-NL-PMS-01-2024 Dated: 15.07.2024
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 09-CECNMS-2024-E-467796 Dated: 23.07.2024
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 10-CECNMS-2024-E-468242 Dated: 23.07.2024
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 11-CECNMS-2024-E-410559 Dated: 24.07.2024

For and on behalf of The President of India, The Chief Engineer, Construction, Southern Railway, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008 invites e-tender for the following work(s) as per Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal **www.ireps.gov.in** The Tenderers / Contractors intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and only online tenders will be accepted.

NAME OF THE WORK
Tiruchchirappalli Division, Tiruchchirappalli Section: Proposed Rebuilding of existing Road Over Bridge No. E.17 at Railway km. 137/000 at Tiruchchirappalli Fort station (near Maris Theatre) Substructures with pile foundation and super structure with Composite girder of clear span 1x30000 across the tracks and launching by using Road cranes and cast-insitu deck slab and other miscellaneous works. (TWO PACKET SYSTEM)
Request for proposal (RFP) for appointment of authority engineer for providing project management services for construction of new railway BG line between chainage 170.000 km and chainage 184.920 km between Podatturpettai (incl.) & Nagari (incl.) stations and construction of new Railway BG line between chainage 120.900 km and chainage 141.500 km between Walajah Road Jn. (excl.) & Sholinghur Town (incl.) in proposed new BG railway line between Tindivanam and Nagari project
Proposed construction of Sub-sectioning and Parallel Post (SSP) control rooms at Periyakottai (PYK), Arantangi (ATQ), Ayingudi (AYI), Peravurani (PVI), Adirampattinam (AMM), Mutupet (MTT) and Tillaivilagam (TAM) (seven stations), Traction Sub-station (TSS) control room and OHE maintenance depot at Pattukkottai (PKT) station. RCC retaining wall and earth filling at Tiruturaipundi Jn. & Pattukkottai stations in Tiruturaipundi - Karaikudi section (excluding Tiruturaipundi station) Tiruchchirappalli Division of Southern Railway.
Proposed construction of Sub - Sectioning and Parallel Post (SSP) control rooms at Tirunellikaval (TNK) & Kariyapattinam (KXY) (Two stations), Track Sub-station (TSS) control room and OHE maintenance depot at Tiruturaipundi station, RCC retaining wall and earth filling at Tiruturaipundi station in Tiruvarur - Tiruturaipundi Agasthiyampalli Section, Tiruchchirappalli Division of Southern Railway.
Tiruchchirappalli Division - Villupuram - Tiruchchirappalli section. Proposed Construction of Road Over Bridge in lieu of existing LC No.226 at Km.311/800-900 between Kattur and Lalgudi stations, Substructures with pile foundation and super structure with BOW STRING girder of clear span 1x 74000 across the tracks and launching by using Road cranes and cast-in-situ deck slab and other miscellaneous work. (TWO PACKET SYSTEM)

Cash Value (₹)	Earnest Money Deposit (₹)	Period of Completion in (Months)	Pre-Bid conference date	Closing Date @ 15.30 hrs.
102599074.58	663000.00	12		30.07.2024
104419848.00	672100.00	24	31.07.2024	30.08.2024
55727132.45	428600.00	6		14.08.2024
54368883.58	421900.00	6		14.08.2024
180281349.98	1051400.00	12		20.08.2024

For further details, please refer to website portal **www.ireps.gov.in** or contact Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Construction, E.V.R. High Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.

Chief Engineer (Construction), Egmore, Chennai - 600 008

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

(A Government of India Undertaking)

VIDYARANYAPURA BRANCH
No. 194, NTI Layout,
1st Cross Road Block Vidyaranyapuram,
Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru - 560 097

POSSESSION NOTICE [RULE - 8(1)]

Whereas: The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Canara Bank **Vidyaranyapura Branch,** under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice calling upon the Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the above amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on mentioned dates.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **CANARA BANK** for an below mentioned amount and interest thereon.

1. Name & Address of the Borrower/s: 1. Yogha Crop Care Private Limited, No. 31/6, Mayur Nilaya, 1st B Cross, Chikkabommasandra, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru - 560065. **2. Sreenivas T N,** No. 316, 1st B Cross, GKVK Post, Chikkabommasandra, Yelahanka, Bengaluru - 560064. **3. Pallavi B,** 31 Mayur Nilaya 1st B Cross, Chikkabommasandra, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru - 560065. **4. Kamala T N,** W/o Thimmappa T, No. 1796, 8th Block, Sir M V Layout, Manganahalli Cross, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru - 560056.
Demand Notice Date: 06.05.2024 **Possession Notice Date: 23.07.2024**
Outstanding Amount **Rs. 43,20,091.84/-** (Rupees Fourty Three Lakh Twenty Thousand Ninety One and Eighty Four Paise Only) and interest thereon.
Description of the Immovable Property: All that part and parcel of property bearing Site No. 1796, 5th Block, Sri M Visveswaraiah Layout, East to West 6.00 meter, North to South 9.00 meters. Total measuring 54.00 sqmt. **Boundaries: East:** Site No. 1797, **West:** Site No. 1795, **North:** Road, **South:** Site No. 1804.
Name of title holder: Mrs. Kamala T N

2. Name & Address of the Borrower/s: 1. Susheelamma, W/o Krishnappa N., No. 16, GKVK Road Thindlu, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru - 560097. **2. Krishnappa N. (Joint Borrower),** S/o Nanjundappa, No. 626, Maharaja Street Muniswamappa, Udayanagar, D V Nagar Post, Bengaluru - 560016. **Gurantor: N Kempanna, No.** 15, Thindlu, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru - 560097.
Demand Notice Date: 06.05.2024 **Possession Notice Date: 23.07.2024**
Outstanding Amount **Rs.10,15,222.22/-** (Rupees Ten Lakh Fifteen Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Two and Twenty Two Paise Only) and interest thereon.
Description of the Immovable Property: All that part and parcel of property bearing Site No. 16, B Khatha No. 381/16, Present BBMP Khatha No. 91/16, Thindlu Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengalur North Taluk. **Boundaries: East:** Site No. 17, **West:** Site No. 13, **North:** Vacant Land, **South:** Road.
Name of title holder: Mrs. Susheelamma

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 27.07.2024

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that my client intends to purchase the property described in the schedule given below and referred to as Schedule Property from M Srinivasa residing at No 129, Pailwan T Annayappa Main Road, Thigalara pet, Bangalore 560 002, who is the sole and absolute owner of the same.

Any person or persons other than the owners named above having any claim/s in respect of the Schedule Property or any objections to the abovesaid transaction in any manner is/are required to forward the same to the undersigned along with the relevant documents thereof, within ten days from the date of publication of this notice in this newspaper. In the absence of any claims or objections within the above said period it shall be deemed that there are no claims or objections or that they have been waived and my client will proceed with the transaction of the Schedule Property without any further reference in this regard.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing New Municipal No 103 (Old No 104), bearing PID No 62-136-103 measuring east to west 20 feet and north to south 80 feet in total 1600 square feet along with a structure constructed thereon and situated in Siddapura, Jayanagar, Ward No 144, Hombegowda Nagar, Bangalore and bounded as follows:

EAST BY : 5 feet common passage;
WEST BY : Patel Puttanna's property;
NORTH BY : Road;
SOUTH BY : Akkayamma's property.

Bindiya Kulkarni, Advocate
No.206A, II Floor, Embassy Square,
No 148, Infantry Road, Bangalore 560001

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that, my client SRI. ABDUL RAHMAN Aged about 33 years, S/o, Late Abdul Rashid, Residing at, Flat No. 204 2nd Floor, A2G Enclave 3rd Main 5th Cross Road, LBS Nagar HAL Post Bangalore-560017, Aadhar No. 9794 0794 3470. PAN No. CRVPA0933J. Ph.9003555224. Being a lawful owner and in peaceful possession of the below mentioned schedule property intend to sell the Schedule property to the third party.

Any person or persons, authorities, Banks, financial institutions etc, having any valid right, title interest or any claim over the Schedule Property or any portions of it in any manner may with documentary evidence lodge their objections/ claim within 10 days from the date of this notice with the undersigned, if no valid objections are received within the stipulated date, our client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All piece and parcel of residential apartment bearing **Flat No. 002,** Ground floor, apartment named **"A2G RM COMFORTS",** with super built up area **1130** Square Feet inclusive of undivided share of **226** Sqft. Constructed in property bearing Property bearing Site No. 211, CMC Katha 211,present BBMP Khata No. 221/211 and PID No. 221, BBMP ward No.81 Measuring East to West 59.5 feet, and North to south (36 + 40)/2 feet, in total extent 2261Sq.fts, Situated at, Talacauvery Layout, Block No. 13.Vibuthipura Village, KR Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Now comes under the Jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No 81, Bangalore,

Adv.Chaitanya: 9740779209)
Adv. Mangala R S: 9108261684)
M/s C M Associates
Advocates and Solicitors
NO. 001, A2G Enclave, 5th Cross,
3rd Main, LBS Nagar HAL
Bangalore: 560 017. Dated: 27/07/2024

यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Union Bank of India

भारत सरकार का उपक्रम — A Government of India Undertaking

Regional Office: 2254, "Koushalya", 3rd Floor, South Wing, Vinoba Road, Mysore - 570 005

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties charged/mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/ Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Union Bank of India** (Secured Creditor), will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is"** on date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s)& Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:

Union Bank Of India, Ramanagara E-CB Branch, #316, Ijoor, Near Bus Stand, Ramanagara – 571511 Ph. No: - 080-27275035,

Name & Address of the Borrowers & Guarantor/s	Amount due Rs.
1. M/s. A P R Silks, Prop: Arif Pasha, No.332/687/6/1, Behind Keb Compound, Ward No. 11, Kothipura, Amanikere, Hunasanahalli Road, Rehamaniya Nagar, Ramanagara – 562159 **2. Mr. Arif Pasha,** S/o Mukthra Pasha, 1st Cross, Yarabnagara Mohalla, Ramangara - 562159	Rs. 85,11,942/-
All the prat and parcel of Residential House in the Name of Arif Pasha, Property Bearing Katha No. 332/687/6/1, Situated at Ward No.211, Kothipura Amanikere, Ramanagara. Measuring East-West: 30ft, North-South: 170ft. Total 5100 Sqft. **Bounded** By: East: Govt Road, West: Govt Road, North: Remaining Property of Mukthar Pasha in Same Number, South: Govt Road. **Date & Time of E-Auction: on 14/08/2024 @ 12.00 Noon to 05.00PM. Reserve Price: 65,02,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 6,50,200/-.**	
1. M/s. S P R Silks Prop: Sadiq Pasha, 1st Cross, Near Noorani Mosque, Yarab Nagar, Ramanagara-571511 **2. Mr. Ziaulla** S/o Shafiulla, No – 3653, Mehaboob Nagar, Ramanagara -571511	Rs. 83,19,910/-
All the Prat and Parcel of Residential House in the Name of Sadik Pasha, Property Bearing No. 21/4, New No.789/21/4, Situated at Ward No.24/4, Kothipura Extension, Ramanagara, Measuring East-West: 95 Ft, North-South: 40 Ft Total 3800 Sqft. **Bounded By:** East: Land of Mukthar Pasha, West: Land of Mukthar Pasha, North: Road, South: Government Halla. **Date & Time of E-Auction: on 14/08/2024 @ 12.00 Noon to 05.00PM. Reserve Price: 63,36,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 6,33,600/-.**	

Union Bank Of India, Mylanayakana Hosahalli Branch, Bevoor Road, Opposite Govt Middle School, Mylanayakana Hosahalli Village, Channapatna Taluk, Ramanagara -562160.

Name & Address of the Borrowers & Guarantor/s	Amount due Rs.
1. Mr. Biligowda S/o Ankaiah, Byranayakanahalli Village, Bevoor Post, Channapatna Tq, Ramanagara – 562108 **2. Mr. Pruthviraj** S/o Biligowda, Byranayakanahalli Village, Bevoor Post, Channapatna Tq, Ramanagara – 562108 **3. Mrs. Prema** W/o Biligowda, Byranayakanahalli Village, Bevoor Post, Channapatna Tq, Ramanagara Dist.	Rs. 13,19,345/-
All the Part and Parcel of the Residenital House In the Name of Mr. Prithiviraj N.B. Bearing Sy No. 39/6, Property No. 156/39/8, Unique No. 152900100400120013, Byranayakanahalli Village, Bevoor Gramapanchyath, Maluru Hobli, Channapatana Tq, Ramanagara Dist. Measuring E-W: 40ft, N-S: 30ft, Total 1200sqft. **Bounded By**: East:10ft Mud Road, West: Private Property, North: 40ft Own Property & Then 25ft CC Road, South: Private Property. **Date & Time of E-Auction: on 14/08/2024 @ 12.00 Noon to 05.00PM. Reserve Price: 14,76,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 1,47,600/-.**	
1. Mrs. Gowramma W/o Nanjegowda, Thoutanahalli, H

In a significant development in the fire mishap case at Madanapalle Sub-Collector's office, authorities have taken two YSRC leaders into custody. Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has taken the destruction of files seriously, demanding a minute-by-minute account of the incident from officials

TN CM skips NITI meet, slams Centre on duty cut

Stalin says Union Budget 'takes revenge' on not only Tamil Nadu, but entire country, condemns 'discriminatory attitude'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Chennai

AFTER boycotting the NITI Aayog meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday to condemn the "discriminatory attitude" shown by the union government towards Tamil Nadu in the budget, Chief Minister M K Stalin also slammed the finance minister's announcement "to moderate the high stamp duty levied by states."

In an eight-minute video explaining the reasons for skipping the meeting held in New Delhi which was boycotted by 10 states, Stalin said the Union Budget "takes revenge" on not only Tamil Nadu, but the entire country. "You (the BJP) are committing mistakes after mistakes. You will suffer more and more defeats. Just as both the Houses of Parliament are outraged, the hearts of Indian people are also raging against you," Stalin said.

> **Who gave them the authority to alter the tax levying system of the states when they (centre) have not even disbursed the Rs 20,000-crore GST compensation to Tamil Nadu**
>
> MK Stalin, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister

The CM also said, "The Union Finance Minister has announced, without consulting the states, that the stamp duty levied by them will be reduced." "Who gave them the authority to alter the tax levying system of the states when they (centre) have not even disbursed the ₹20,000-crore GST compensation to Tamil Nadu," asked the CM, blaming the union government for introducing GST and taking away the taxation powers of the states.

In the Union Budget, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said that the central government will "encourage" states to moderate stamp duty rates for all and "consider" further lowering duties for properties purchased by woman. While her statement initially indicated that the centre may not make it mandatory for states to reduce the stamp duties, she followed it up by saying that "the reform will be made an essential component of urban development schemes," hinting that states may be forced to do it, the CM pointed out.

It can be recalled that the state government, after more than 20 years, increased the stamp duty for several legal transactions through a gazette notification in May 2024.

The state's pleas for disaster relief of ₹37,000 crore and ₹63,000 crore for Chennai Metro Rail's second phase were not heeded to, the CM said. Despite the announcement in the 2021 Union Budget that the metro project will be implemented through funds from both the union and state governments, the centre is now terming it a 'state-sponsored project' in response to questions in Parliament. "If so, would they hand over the railway sector also to the state government," Stalin asked.

HONORARIUM

Guarantee panel chiefs to get ₹40k a month

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE State Government has fixed the salary and honorarium for the presidents of the guarantees' implementation committees at the taluk and district levels.

Heads of the district committees will get Rs 40,000 monthly honorarium and taluk committee heads will get Rs 25,000 each month. The committee members will get the sitting fees for attending the meetings. In Bengaluru, the head of the committee that supervises the implementation of the schemes in the Brugat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) limits will get Rs 40,000 per month.

The move to constitute the guarantee implementation committees is also seen as an effort to involve Congress workers in implementing the government's flagship guarantee schemes.

A team conducts the search for truck driver Arjun in the Gangavalli river on Saturday | EXPRESS

Shirur landslip: No headway despite diver joining search

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Shirur (Uttara Kannada)

UNDERWATER search expert from Udupi district Eshwar Malpe joined the search operation in the Gangavali river at Shirur on Saturday to find truck driver Arjun and other missing people. Eshwar and his team members are following four contact points provided by the Drone-based Intelligent Buried Object Detection System (DIBODS) of the QuickPay Pvt Ltd report. However, there has been no headway in the search operation.

The team continued its search operation since morning along the riverside and the river beds. The DIBODS of QuickPay Pvt Ltd had given four contact points (CP), stating that the CP4 exhibits signatures closest to the truck. Based on the information, the divers from the Navy were supposed to conduct a search operation but refrained from entering the river, owing to the strong current in the river. However, on Saturday morning, a team headed by Eshwar Malpe was pressed into service who dived into the river and searched the points. However, the search was in vain as nothing came out of it.

Explaining the situation, Deputy Commissioner of Uttara Kannada Lakshmi Priya said the firm had provided four contact points. "We had found three points earlier. Based on these points, Eshwar started working. The diving team anchored in the river bed and conducted the search operation but failed to find anything," she said.

Govt agencies to take up silt studies in K'taka dams

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

AS most of the reservoirs in Karnataka near full this month, which is the middle of monsoon, state government agencies along with experts are now working to take up silt studies at all reservoirs.

The study will not only help in planning projects better, but also aid in taking measures to ensure dam safety, improve water holding capacity and prevent flooding. As per data from the Karnataka State National Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC), the storage level in the Cauvey basin is 94%, Krishna basin 80% and Vani Vilas Sagar 59%. The overall storage level across all the reservoirs is 77% as on July 27.

"This is not the first time that the reservoirs have hit a good level in July. In 2018-19, when there were severe floods, the reservoir levels were nearly full. Similar was the case in 2021 and 2022. Only last year, when the state faced a severe drought, the reservoirs were not full, but were managed at 56%. Now since the monsoon is good, the water runoff too is good. The soil test is being conducted after 5-6 years. The study report from the Cauvery basin will also be shared with the Cauvery Tribunal," a senior official in the Water Resources Department (WRD) told The New Sunday Express.

The permitted national silt accumulation level for reservoirs is 3%. As per the last study report in the Cauvery basin, it was 2% and in Krishna basin it was just a fraction less than 3%. The highest silt accumulation is at the Tungabhadra reservoir, where water holding capacity has dropped from 135 tmcft to 105 tmcft.

"Silt studies are best conducted when the reservoirs are full or near full and rain is good. They are done using mathematical methods and sonography technology. Now with heavy rainfall across the state, dam stress levels rising and encroachments around reservoirs and catchment areas increasing, it is crucial to ascertain silt levels and maintain water levels. We are also ensuring that the dams are not full to their optimum level as it could impact the structure and lead to floods. We are trying to keep the levels to less than 70%. The dams will be filled to the brim only by August-end, when monsoon starts waning," the official explained.

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Karnataka has received 28% excess rainfall between June 1 and July 27. Against the normal forecast of 421.8 mm, the state has received 541.9mm rainfall for the period.

Strong wind alert

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a strong wind alert across the state and advised people, especially fishermen, to exercise caution. As per its forecast, wind speed of 50-60 kmph will prevail. In Bengaluru, the highest wind speed of 52 kmph was recorded at 2.05 pm on July 20 and at 3.20 pm on July 25.

Rainfall

Coastal Karnataka recorded 29% excess rainfall. Against the norm of 1827.2mm, the region recorded 2361.8mm. North-interior Karnataka received 26%. Against the norm of 206.4mm, it recorded 260.5mm. South-interior Karnataka recorded 29%. Against the norm of 324.2mm, it saw 419.5mm.

Water flows just under the Wellesley Bridge near Srirangapatna in Mandya district on Saturday after heavy discharge from KRS Dam. The bridge stands at a height of over 20 feet | UDAYASHANKAR S

The Gokak waterfalls in full glory captured by a drone camera on Saturday

Rain in Maha forces Athani villagers to move to safe places

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Athani

AS the water inflow into Krishna river increased to 2.5 lakh cusecs because of heavy rain in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra, villagers from Hulagbal, Pakali, Mang hamlets in Athani taluk have started to move to safer places due to threat of floods.

This move comes in the backdrop of the district administration's fiat to the villagers residing on the banks of Krishna river. However, the villagers reluctantly left their homes. They blamed the past and present governments for failing to take measures for their permanent rehabilitation to safe places.

The Mang hamlet in Hulagbal village has become an island as it is surrounded by river water. People of the village and their livestock had been relocated with the help of the plastic barrels. There was a paralysis patient among the flood victims in Mang hamlet. The villagers struggled a lot to shift patient Shankar Mang to a safer place as he could not move his limbs. The villagers lifted and put him in a vehicle to move him to a safe place. Many such small hamlets close to the river in Athani taluk are affected by floods every year. The villagers have been demanding that the government rehabilitate them to safe places permanently, but their pleas have fallen on deaf ears.

Families moved to safer places in a van in Mang village | EXPRESS

Minister blames official apathy for flood damage

Mysuru: Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda slammed officials for failing to take up maintenance works on a regular basis which has resulted in damages during floods. "Officials should have taken up repair works and strengthening of irrigation canals and tank bunds. The collapse of the retaining walls at Mandagere in KR Pet taluk is due to their negligence," he said. Meanwhile, the minister informed that irrigation officials have released 76,000 cusecs of water from Hemavathi giving scope for the floods.

Landslides hit M'luru, B'luru road, rail connectivity

Mangaluru: The road and rail connectivity between Mangaluru and Bengaluru has been affected following landslides on the Shiradi Ghat stretch and Yedakumari on the Western Ghats. The railways has cancelled many trains operating between the two cities till Monday, as a result of which there was huge traffic on NH-75 due to weekend rush on Saturday. The traffic on NH-75 lasted for many hours following a landslide at Yettinahalli in Sakleshpur taluk. Many passengers had to wait for several hours on the Shiradi Ghat, as the authorities tried to clear the debris.

Majhi govt to re-brand BJD schemes, spend ₹1,000cr

HEMANT KUMAR ROUT
@ Bhubaneswar

WHAT'S in a name? Not much, you may say. But the exercise of re-branding popular government schemes of the previous BJD regime by the Mohan Majhi government may come at a cost.

The move to re-christen government schemes came to fore when Majhi while presenting the State Budget 2024-25 announced several new schemes and allocated funds for the renamed ones.

At first glance, it might seem like a mere change of names but a closer look reveals the renaming has both financial and administrative implications. Sources said the financial outlay associated with re-branding Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) as Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana (GJAY) alone could cost more than ₹500 crore.

The previous government spent around ₹300 crore on preparation of health cards and branding of BSKY. The decision to re-brand it as GJAY would cost the exchequer at least ₹200 crore more as fresh cards will have to be distributed to the beneficiaries.

Economists said re-branding incurs additional costs and causes confusion among beneficiaries leading to delay in delivery of essential services. Additional professor (Economics) at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, NISER Amarendra Das said no person is above state or nation.

MAN DIES IN WALL COLLAPSE

Dharwad: In a tragic incident, Yellappa Hippayyavar (48) died while his daughter and wife managed to make a lucky escape, sustaining a few minor injuries, after the wall of an adjacent house collapsed on their kutcha house. The incident occurred on Friday night at Siddar Colony in Venkatapur village of Dharwad taluk. It is the first rain-related death of this monsoon season in the district. According to sources, Yellappa and his daughter Yellavva and wife Hanumavva were in the kitchen when the wall collapsed. Villagers tried their best to save Yellappa but he died on the way to hospital. Yellappa was the sole breadwinner of the family.

REMEMBER SACRIFICES OF OUR SOLDIERS, DC TELLS YOUTH

The Swaraninad team of Kolhapur performs at the Jago Hindustani programme in Kalaburagi on Friday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Kalaburagi

"WE can make history only if we know the past history, that is what renowned newspaper The New Indian Express is doing by arranging patriotic programmes like Jago Hindustani," Kalaburagi Deputy Commissioner Fouzia Taranum has said.

Inaugurating the 'Jago Hindustani' event organised on the occasion of Silver Jubilee celebration of Kargil Vijayotsava at S M Pandit Ranga Mandir on Friday evening, Fouzia Taranum said: "By organising the events like 'Jago Hindustani', TNIE is telling the people, especially youngsters, about the role played and sacrifices made by the soldiers to protect the countrymen during wars and natural disasters. Such programmes help in conveying our gratitude to our soldiers and inspire our youth to join the armed forces." Presiding over the programme, Col (Rtd) Pralhad Kulkarni urged the youth to be torchbearers of the future. "The story of Kargil is not merely about victory in a war, it is also about the relentless pursuit of goals, the power of unity, and the essence of patriotism. Our soldiers fought against all odds, in the most challenging terrains, with limited resources and yet emerged victorious," he said.

Assistant General Manager of North Karnataka (Space marketing) Satish Joshi delivered the keynote address. On the occasion, a team of renowned artistes 'Swaraninad' from Kolhapur of Maharashtra, performed a cultural event mesmerising the audience. The programme presented by Swaraninad was based on the theme of Indian culture, Freedom Movement and present social conditions.

CJI: Stats of persons with disabilities need of the hour

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

"THERE is a long way to go before we can truly achieve accessibility, autonomy and equal participation for persons with disabilities. We still need accurate statistics of persons with disabilities. An up-to-date census is the need of the hour," said the Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud here on Saturday.

He was speaking at the inauguration of India Accessibility Summit and State Commissioners for Persons with Disabilities Conclave - 2024, organised by Ramaiah College of Law, Karnataka government and the Association of People with Disability (APD).

He launched a 'Yes to access' app, developed by APD, that aims to audit public spaces for accessibility barriers for the specially-abled and elderly.

Chandrachud said, "Shameful walls of exclusion never come crashing down. Like the Berlin Wall, they must be slowly and patiently chiselled away by consolidated efforts, cooperation and dialogue." He also emphasised the under-representation of persons with disabilities in educational institutions, workforce and decision-making bodies.

"The conversation around disabilities is incomplete without acknowledging the various disabilities including non-visible disabilities (NVDs) that many of us could suffer from. Studies show that many suffering from NVDs choose not to disclose them, fearing stigma and bias at the workplace. These stigmas stem from our perceptions that disabilities are deficits," he added.

SC Judge Justice BV Nagarathna highlighted the need to empower disability commissioners with proper infrastructure, formal education of girls and women and a collaborative approach for their uplift. NV Anjaria, Chief Justice, High Court of Karnataka, and other dignitaries were present.

Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud, SC Judge Justice BV Nagarathna and others at the India Accessibility Summit and State Commissioners for Persons with Disabilities Conclave in Bengaluru on Saturday | ALLEN EGENUSE J

CJI turns vegan, persuaded by daughters

The CJI shared his personal experience of raising two differently-abled daughters (Mahi and Priyanka), who are diagnosed with Nemaline Myopathy — a rare muscular disorder, and use wheelchairs. He expressed how they have completely changed his "universe of existence."

"Mahi is the reason why I have turned into a vegan. She's a fierce environmental activist and also an animal rights activist. Both of them are amazing photographers. They have also persuaded me to become a vegan and adopt a cruelty-free lifestyle," Chandrachud said.

"A city is more than a place in space, it is a drama in time

Patrick Geddes

FLOODED CITIES: URBAN INDIA DROWNS IN POLITICAL APATHY

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR

Author of *The Gated Republic*, *Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution*, and *Accidental India*

(shankkar.aiyar@gmail.com)

JULY 26, 2005. Every monsoon reminds the people of Mumbai of the day when man-made blunders and nature conspired to devastate. The disaster left nearly a thousand dead, the loss of homes and livelihoods, and scars of untold grief. The catastrophe exposed everything that was wrong with India's urbanisation—from planning to execution, from authority to accountability, from expenditure to outcomes.

This week, Mumbai found itself marooned in misery once again. In 2005, Mumbai was devastated by 900 mm of rain; in 2024, barely a third of the volume of rainfall shut down the city. Schools and colleges were closed, businesses downed shutters, the fire brigade and police had to brave the elements and rescue people. Nearly half a dozen Indian cities wallowed in water. Pune, once crowned a 'smart city', a hub of start-ups, had to call for two army columns to rescue people. Residents of Baner and Khadki found basements flooded—thanks to the fact that storm water drains are non-existent—and electricity cut off.

The 2005 disaster was followed by a fact-finding committee led by Madhav Chitale. The findings: excess rain, blockages caused by a lack of desilting, a non-operational disaster management plan, lack of communication and coordination, poor weather warnings and more. In December 2005, the UPA government came up with Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission "to encourage reforms and fast-track planned development". The mission listed many ideas but found no place for the term 'floods'. Five years later, after repeated episodes, the National Disaster Management Authority recognised the scourge of city floods, recommended steps, and listed dos and don'ts. A parade of committees and commissions since have paid lip-service to urban renewal.

Have things changed? Not really. In 2021, just in south India over 30 cities across five states were affected by flooding. Flooding is an annual event when residents pay the price for systemic sloth. Expectations are so low that failure is normal—and anger spills out every budget as more is taken for less. This monsoon, over a dozen cities reeled under floods. A dry-and-thirsty Bengaluru was followed by a hot-and-harried Delhi. Members of parliament living in Lutyens' Delhi tweeted for help. Congress MP Shashi Tharoor joked he may need a boat, while Samajwadi Party MP Ram Gopal Yadav needed a VIP lift to leave his house.

Quintessentially, policy response in India focuses on the consequences of any event or disaster, while the cause is left for another day. Hope arrived in July 2014. In his maiden budget speech, then Finance Minister Arun Jaitley highlighted the state of affairs. He said, "Unless new cities are developed to accommodate the burgeoning number of people, the existing cities would soon become unlivable." He added, "The prime minister has a vision of developing 100 Smart Cities as satellite towns of larger cities, and by modernising existing mid-sized cities." Cities have become more and more unliveable.

The smart cities mission that followed the Jaitley budget didn't list flood prevention as a priority. Mind you, the Smart Cities mission has funded over 8,000 projects worth ₹1.64 lakh crore in 100 cities, but hasn't focused on floods. The AMRUT mission has the potential to address one aspect—lack of drainage—but its track record reflects lack of scale: till 2023, only 719 projects worth ₹1,622 crore were completed.

Flooding is caused by excessive rainfall, but turns into a disaster in the wake of poor drainage, high levels of silt, encroachment of river beds and water bodies, destruction of wetlands in coastal cities and deforestation. It is obvious that planning—and satellite imaging of topography to enable drainage and protect water bodies—is critical for prevention. Yet, poor planning is not considered a cause of urban flooding. It is easier to blame nature.

India's cities are trapped between political apathy and systemic chaos. Typically, the authority of design and the accountability for execution are divorced. The design of policy is with the Union; states have little say. Implementation is with states over which the Union has little sway. Ergo, answers to questions in parliament are prefaced with the disclaimer "urban development including urban planning is a state subject". What makes it worse is that the states have denied form, function and funding to urban bodies.

Historically, India's political parties are invested in a rural bias—after all, rural India casts more votes. It may be useful to illuminate the political landscape with economic context. The world over, urbanisation is a force multiplier for growth and accounts for over 80 percent of global GDP. India is rapidly urbanising and is expected to add over 400 million to its urban population by 2050. Its cities occupy only 3 percent of the land mass, but contribute over 60 percent of GDP. Each percentage rise in urban population in a district ramps up the district GDP by 2.7 per cent.

Budget 2024 mentions urbanisation as one of the nine priorities, but lacks details beyond defining cities as growth hubs. That is necessary but not sufficient. India needs a well-funded policy to prevent catastrophic flooding, enable expansion along corridors and public-private partnerships for greenfield cities.

How about re-investing some of the returns from the urban economy back into the cities? The aspiration of an advanced economy status calls for a review of the political stance and economic policies.

AKHILESH REDEFINES & REINVENTS HIMSELF

POWER & POLITICS

PRABHU CHAWLA

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ONCE upon a time in India, there lived a great wrestler named Mulayam Singh Yadav of Uttar Pradesh. He was adept at chakra daav, the art of deftly throwing an opponent off his feet. He went on to win bigger wrestling matches in the treacherous political akhada of UP by creating the Samajawadi Party, and later, playing referee in many national political competitions.

His son Akhilesh Yadav has understood the secret of stardom: be seen and heard by 141 crore Indians and 543 MPs. Many young MPs are making friends and forgoing foes to elevate their political stature. Akhilesh is more than just an MP—he was a chief minister. By sitting on dharna organised by regional parties against the NDA at Jantar Mantar, Akhilesh made the point that regional is national.

He was invited by Andhra Pradesh's ousted CM, Jagan Mohan Reddy, who warned that his YSR Congress had 15 MPs in parliament and the NDA government, which includes his nemesis Chandrababu Naidu as a partner, should not take him lightly. He and Akhilesh have rarely met socially or for a political cause. Still, Yadav Jr accepted his invitation. It is clever optics: Akhilesh is extending his political turf beyond North India and wants to acquire national party status for SP by 2029. Socialism as ideology has passed its expiry date, but socialising in politics is the opposition playbook. Akhilesh is the New Deal—a young leader repositioning himself as a national leader while not playing the caste card and possessing a modern mind without Mulayam's Lohiaite baggage. For SP, Yadadism is dead, long live a new Yadav. Akhilesh now leads a minimised Yadavised outfit.

Ever since he led SP to a stunning victory with 37 Lok Sabha seats in UP to become the third largest party in the 18th Lok Sabha, he is on an overdrive inside and outside his party. He is no longer a low-key paladin; he delivers well-researched speeches laced with sarcasm, poetry and sober ideology. He has been meeting leaders across parties and is more than willing to give biting bytes to reporters waiting outside his home or parliament.

In Delhi, he held meetings of his parliamentary party to plan SP's future strategy for dominating and influencing an alternative narrative against Narendra Modi's government. According to party sources, he also held individual and collective meetings with opposition honchos. He makes it a point to attend the Lok Sabha along with wife Dimple Yadav and gives the Kennedy touch: an attractive political couple with good intentions for their country. He takes an active part in influencing the parliamentary agenda. He never misses a social get-together. When travelling outside UP, he meets persons who can provide inputs and information. This year, he visited Kolkata, Patna, Chennai and Mumbai.

EXRESS

It's a big change in political style. For the past decade, Akhilesh confined himself to Lucknow and met mostly close confidants, leaving home only for party meetings. The rest of the time, he spent with family, playing football or cricket in the backyard of his house. Now, after many years, India is seeing a new young regional raja itching to play a national role. Mamata Banerjee, M K Stalin and Tejashwi Yadav have by and large stayed in their home states, while Akhilesh bonds with their MPs in Delhi. He has tried his hand at coalition-making and unmaking. He flirted with the Congress and BSP, but failed. But he is not giving up the fight, because age is on his side.

Akhilesh's endgame is to transform SP into an inclusive platform and reach the top. He tweaked his father's political style and is sculpting his own version by purging old disloyalists with tainted images. Mulayam's winning ticket was his anti-Congress agenda. In 2014, he ensured Rahul Gandhi's win in Amethi by transferring SP votes overnight to the Congress just before voting day. He was also responsible for blocking Sonia Gandhi from being PM after Atal Bihari Vajpayee lost the vote of confidence in 1998; he refused to give a letter of support for his party's 39 MPs to the president. Yet, a couple of years later, he drove down to 10 Janpath to seek her backing for Pranab Mukherjee's presidency.

Akhilesh is finally stepping into his father's shoes. There is a big difference, though: his first fight was against family members. Mulayam appointed him the UP SP chief in 2012 just before the assembly elections. Akhilesh's state-wide rath and cycle yatras made him UP's first youth icon, giving SP over two-thirds of the seats. As Akhilesh began to assert himself as CM, he faced internal revolts from family. He sacked Mulayam's familial, political and bureaucratic nominees. A furious Mulayam expelled him from the party. The son retaliated, sacking the father from the presidentship and took charge. The feud went to the Election Commission, which gave the party and its symbol to Akhilesh. By 2017, Akhilesh was in full charge.

A private player who keeps everyone guessing, he is perhaps the only Indian politician who doesn't have an advisor playing an extra-constitutional role. A degree holder in environmental engineering from both Indian and foreign institutions, he has mastered the art of environment management. Akhilesh is not surrounded by any Yadav, though Yadavs have won five elections. He has freed a Yadav-led party from Yadavs. Though half the party posts and legislator seats were grabbed by Yadavs, Akhilesh convinced his family they must share power with other communities if they wanted to rule India someday. Akhilesh diluted his father's political coalition of MY (Muslim and Yadav) and coined a new slogan, PDA (Pichhde or backward, Dalits, Alpasankhyak or minorities). PDA was a game-changer—it took SP from five MPs to 37 in 2024. Non-Yadavs were the majority on the candidate list. Akhilesh has learnt to speak the language of a modernist: liberal and humane with capitalist values, as his track record as CM shows.

Yet, Akhilesh is not a man in a hurry. A five-term Lok Sabha MP, a CM at 38, and party chief at 45, he is both treading and laying his political path with caution. He sticks to his political identity—though Congressmen have given up the Gandhi cap, Akhilesh stands out at every political event in his red cap. He is no comrade, but is a socialist at heart with a laissez-faire mind. Sober and soft spoken, he hasn't uttered a single toxic word against any BJP leader including Yogi and Modi. UP may be a polarised battleground, but Yogi as CM and Akhilesh as Leader of the Opposition display civilised political conduct, because the state comes first for both. Both are in the same age group and are potential PM candidates in the long run.

But one key question remains: which of the two 'UP *ke ladke*' (Rahul and Akhilesh) will get the cup? The outcome of 2027 assembly election will provide a partial answer. Mulayam's lesson has been, 'It's OK to lose the match if you win the tournament'. In this case, Akhilesh is playing against both friends and foes. There are some permanent enemies and friends in politics, but permanent interests are non-negotiable.

STEPPING AWAY FROM STAMPEDES

OPINION

ANURADHA GOYAL

Author and founder of IndiTales.com

Follow her on X @anuradhagoyal

THE last thing I wanted to experience in the beautiful valley of Kashmir was getting struck in a traffic jam. Yet, that is exactly what I had to brave every time I stepped out to be at the venue for a Jammu and Kashmir tourism conclave I was speaking at, or to visit the temples in and around Srinagar.

At the tourism conclave, the topics of concern included meeting the heightened needs of tourists—from accommodation and transportation to development of new destinations and dealing with the waste they leave behind. Problems aplenty where the demand is way higher than the supply. It is the same situation in every popular destination.

Then came the news of stampedes at Hathras and the Puri rath yatra. My mind immediately went back to so many of my temple visits, where such stampedes were quite possible. You could say that they do not happen on a daily basis is indeed some divine grace. Try attending the mangala arti in Puri, or be at Arunachaleshwara on a weekend, or visit Alandi temple any day. You get into a queue—once you are in, you simply cannot come out of it even if you are suffocating. You are surrounded by strong steel rods and a crowd that can only move in one direction. Sometimes, the width of the lane is just enough for once person to move in one direction.

Firstly, this chaos is man-made, not natural. For example, at the Arunachaleshwara Shiva temple you must spend hours in a queue. You come out and visit the Devi temple next to it, and through everyone visits it, there is no rush. You simply walk in, pray and come out. The crowd naturally keeps moving using the open space, making way for the elderly, children or disabled. The same crowd leads to total chaos at the first temple, even with high-value 'special' tickets. There is something amiss.

Crowd management needs to be urgently and mandatorily in place for all the places that attract big crowds. India is full of them. There must be a way out for those who may feel unwell or suffocated or may have a train or a flight to catch. CCTV cameras or similar technologies can be used to ensure that people visiting from far can peacefully enjoy the few moments they spend there. At the same time, they should not create chaos for others. The National Disaster Management Authority's 95-page guidelines are available online, but it is hard to see them in practice. One of the modules says a person needs one square yard of space to move around freely—we do not even leave that kind of space at airports queues, leave apart the overly-crowded places.

We might soon need 'stay at home' campaigns. Sometimes I wonder if phrases like 'East or West, home is the best' were indeed invented for similar times in the past. Maybe it is time to follow Chaturmasa tradition of not travelling during the four monsoon months and allowing nature to rejuvenate.

The authorities, both government and private, will act when they have a solid reason to. But we, as tourist and pilgrims, need to be careful in planning our travels. School vacations are understandably a peak travel time, but try to travel in non-peak times. At least choose less-crowded destinations. I remember visiting Ladakh in January meant having the whole landscape to myself, while the same place in summers looks like Kashmiri Gate in Delhi.

The crush of crowds across India needs attention from authorities as well as tourists. Crowd control plans are rarely followed. But citizens can also choose to visit fewer places and follow the rules in place. Being in a chaotic crowd does not help anyone grow spiritually

We need to question if traveling every weekend or every month is a must just because we can afford it with time and money. What are you enjoying if you are creating and suffering the same traffic jam in another location? Believe me, a traffic jam in scenic Srinagar feels the same as one in Bengaluru's IT corridor.

Devotees needs to choose pilgrimage places that are important to their lineage and faith. You do not need to visit every temple, every religious place you see pictures of, or every temple that a professional travel influencer is visiting and posting about. Social media content tempts, but honestly, being part of a chaotic crowd does not really help you grow spiritually.

It is fun to be adventurous. But why ignore warnings? I have seen beach guards in Goa pleading people to not go beyond red flags, but not many listen. Though we expect our security forces to come to our rescue, we must understand it is not their job to secure us from our stupidities like going to the edge of a steep rock for that selfie. We must also listen to the warnings put in place to keep us safe. The authorities also need to have strict guidelines for adventure sports operators. Something as simple as wearing life jackets while going into waters is rarely practiced.

If there was something called crowd pollution, let us pro-actively plan to stay safe from it. This would automatically minimise our contribution to it. It's time to sit back and enjoy our homes a bit, too.

QUOTE CORNER

In this campaign, I promise you, I will proudly put my record against his any day of the week... I took on perpetrators of all kinds. Predators who abused women. Fraudsters who ripped off consumers. Cheaters who broke the rules for their own gain. So hear me when I say, I know Donald Trump's type.

Kamala Harris, US vice-president and presumptive Democratic nominee against Donald Trump in the 2024 race, at her first campaign rally in Wisconsin

The quality we have in depth we have to catch up, but even more because this season will be the survival of the fittest

Erik ten Hag, Manchester United FC manager, on hiring more players for the coming season

When you're on the wave, you're very free. It's an open canvas.

Caroline Marks, 22-year-old member of the US surfing team at the 2024 Olympics; this part of the competition is being held in Tahiti in French Polynesia

MAILBAG

WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Faith dividend

Ref: *CPM's leap of faith could help ensure political survival* (Jul 27). The survival of any political party depends on its acceptability to the people. So, the CPI(M) cannot be blamed for being liberal in matters of faith when a substantial part of its sympathisers in the current society, which is patently conservative, is not averse to faith. Dogmatism and obstinacy will not reap political dividends.

Dharmarajan A K, Thalassery

People's opiate

Karl Marx stated that religion helps people in the same way that opium helps the wounded, suggesting that religion offers temporary relief, but is ultimately harmful. He predicted that communism would eventually eliminate religion, indicating that eliminating religion was not his primary agenda. However, the term 'opium' had a particularly negative connotation in the Indian context, leading Indian communists to project themselves as anti-religious. It is a welcome development that they have realised India has serious problems that need to be addressed beyond the issue of religion.

Sundareswara Pandiyan S, Chennai

Green communism

The editorial's point that the Kerala CPI(M) is losing support among Hindus, particularly in the Ezhava community, its earliest base, is true. This is not just because of denying the freedom to worship but appeasement of Muslims. It's a common joke in Kerala nowadays that communism is not red, but green in our state. Even when we elected a communist government in the 1950s, most people were believers.

V H Subramoney, Bengaluru

Odisha jobs

Ref: *Kannadiga quota bill needs to be reconsidered* (Jul 26). The article makes us think about our state Odisha. Let the government create employment here. Give facilities to companies to open offices in the state. IT companies need land and power. There is nothing wrong in demanding jobs for one's own people. But it's practically not possible.

Sunil Pradhan, Khariar

Pay Commission

The central budget has failed to address the genuine, long-pending grievances of central government employees. The proposals are aimed at privatisation at a faster pace and do not speak of creating new posts, especially in the railways. Government employees and pensioners are frustrated and agitated, as dearness allowance from January 2020 to June 2021 has not been released yet. The parliament committee's recommendation for additional pensions after the ages of 65, 70 and 75 has not been addressed. It is imperative now to set up the much-needed the 8th Central Pay Commission.

H Ghouse Baig, Tiruchirappalli

Congress disunity

The bane of the Congress is its disunity and ego trips, at least in the Kerala unit. No wonder other parties take advantage. They should realise that the party is greater than an individual and represents the people. Partymen should not squabble like little children do for chocolates. Their positions mean serious business, which is not like giving a garland of flowers to a monkey who doesn't know how to handle it. Kerala Congress president K Sudhakaran should avoid high-handedness and assembly opposition leader V D Satheeshan should make use of his smile for diplomacy.

Elizabeth Koshy, Pathanamthitta

Stunted growth

The women and child development ministry said about 17 percent children aged below 5 are underweight, while 36 percent are stunted and 6 percent are 'wasted'. This is despite many schemes implemented by the Union government to address malnutrition in the country. Nutritional deficiencies inflict long-term damage to individuals. The silver lining is in states like Goa, Ladakh and Sikkim have lower malnutrition rates. Effective implementation of the policies is the need of the hour.

S Sankaranarayanan, Chennai

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Pralhad Joshi @JoshiPralhad
We are making rapid strides towards building a Viksit Bharat that is fueled by clean sources of energy. More than 151 GW capacity of renewable energy is under various stages of implementation.

Jairam Ramesh @Jairam_Ramesh
It (NITI Aayog) muzzles all divergent and dissenting viewpoints, which are the very essence of an open democracy. Its meetings are a farce to be reckoned with.

Jawhar Sircar @jawharsircar
Bengal sincerely believes in woman power. TMC has 38% women MPs both in Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha. No state is near this figure!

Developed states can make Viksit Bharat: PM

Modi highlights three targets: Strive for 'zero poverty', investor-friendly charter and set up a river grid

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

CHAIRING a meeting of the ninth governing council of NITI Aayog on Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted that the ambitious goal of 'Viksit Bharat 2047' could be realised only if the states are developed.

Noting that turning states into "Viksit states" for achieving the national goal, NITI Aayog's CEO BVR Subrahmanyam, quoting the PM, said that he highlighted three major targets: strive for 'zero poverty', an investor-friendly charter, and set up a river grid.

The PM also asserted that India was progressing in the right direction after overcoming the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We have defeated a once-in-100-year pandemic. Our people are full of energy, enthusiasm and confidence. We can fulfill our dreams of Viksit Bharat 2047 with the combined effort of all states. Viksit states will make Viksit Bharat," Modi said, while stressing that the vision of a developed India by 2047 was shared by every Indian and highlighted the crucial role of states.

"Viksit Bharat 2047 is the ambition of every Indian. States can play an active role in achieving this aim as they are directly connected with the people," the CEO quoted the PM as saying in the meeting.

On 'Zero-Poverty', the Prime Minister emphasised that the states need to tackle poverty on an individual basis rather than just at a programme level and suggested that removing poverty from the grassroots would bring about a transformational effect in the country.

NITI Aayog CEO BVR Subrahmanyam addresses media in New Delhi on Saturday | PTI

The CEO said, "The Prime Minister asked the NITI Aayog to prepare an index to allow the states to compete in attracting foreign direct investment and also make efforts to strengthen districts to turn them into drivers of growth."

"The states may be monitored on the achievement as per the index to promote healthy competition among them for attracting investments. He also underscored the importance of law and order, good governance and infrastructure as vital for attracting investments, rather than just incentives," the CEO said.

"This is the decade of change, technological and geopolitical, and also of opportunities. India should grab these opportunities and make our policies conducive to international investments. This is the stepping stone for progress to make India a developed nation," the PM said.

Talking about 'demographic management', the CEO quoted the PM as saying that India needed to formulate a strategy to deal with its rapidly ageing population. He asked the states to take up capacity building of government officials at all levels and encourage them to collaborate with the Capacity Building Commission.

The PM also encouraged the creation of a river grid at state-level for effective utilisation of water resources.

BJP ally Nitish gives meet a miss, busy with JD(U) prep for J'khand elections

It is intriguing why Nitish should not attend the meeting when JD(U) wants to create an impression that Modi govt has given ₹58,000 crore-plus special package

Chitranjan Gagan, RJD spokesperson

Not a first

JD(U) leader Neeraj Kumar said it was not the first time that Nitish had not attended NITI Aayog's meetings, and the then deputy CM had represented Bihar earlier. This time, his two deputy CMs were present.

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

BIHAR Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Saturday skipped the NITI Aayog meeting held in New Delhi, even as the main Opposition party RJD alleged that the former boycotted it because he "knew the reality" of how the state was not given its due in the budget despite much hype over it.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the ninth governing council meeting of the NITI Aayog, which was held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan's Cultural Centre in the national capital.

However, Bihar's two deputy CMs — Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha — participated in the meeting. Nitish-led JD(U) is a key NDA ally in Bihar. At the Centre, the party has 12 party MPs from the state, which is important for the stability of the Modi government.

JD(U) chief spokesperson and MLC Neeraj Kumar said it was not the first time that Nitish had not attended the NITI Aayog's meetings, and the then deputy CM had represented Bihar earlier. "This time, in addition to the deputy CMs, four Union ministers from Bihar, who are members of the NITI Aayog, were present," Kumar said.

Meanwhile, senior RJD leader Chitranjan Gagan alleged that Nitish, contrary to his claim, was unhappy with the Union Budget as he knew what the Centre actually gave the state.

"Nitish boycotted the meeting peeved over the budgetary proposals made for Bihar. It is intriguing why he should not attend it when JD(U) wants to create an impression that the Modi government has given ₹58,000 crore-plus special package. This is not normal," he added.

KAMALA HARRIS & USHA VANCE

BROWN WOMEN IN THE RING

AMITAVA SANYAL

MANOJ PARDIKAR

SUCCESS has many parents. So it's not surprising that the presence of two Indian-origin women in the US presidential race has sent some Indians scrambling to plot their nth degrees of separation from them. Both women trace their roots back to high-achieving families from south India. Both were born to immigrant parents in California and studied law. But that's where the similarities end between the 59-year-old vice-president and presumptive Democratic nominee Kamala Devi Harris and 38-year-old Usha Chilukuri Vance, wife of the Republican vice-presidential pick.

Kamala's Chennai-born mother Shyamala Gopalan, then a PhD candidate in endocrinology who used to love singing along to Aretha Franklin records, met her father Donald Harris, a jazz-loving, Jamaica-born development economist, at a protest meet. Their involvement in the civil rights movement and Shyamala's conviction on women's rights set Kamala's political compass in her early years spent between Oakland and Berkeley.

Kamala gets another attribute from Shyamala — laughing from the belly, something that has been tutted at. That laughter and keeping a bunch of old friends close is what has allowed her to brave her battles, says the veep.

Kamala's memoir, The Truths We Hold: An American Journey, begins with a groan of disbelief from her husband Doug Emhoff on the "long, dark night" in November 2016 it became clear Donald Trump would be president. It explains why this race is personal for her and goes back to trace her journey from being an intern at a county court, up to being the top public prosecutor in California and then a senator.

The book is peppered with browns — being a brown-skin woman, browning beef cubes, brown lawns, and even former California governor Jerry Brown, whom she succeeded as the state's attorney general. But one Brown who played a not-so-insignificant role in her early career is missing — her former paramour Willie Jr, San Francisco's first black mayor who as state assembly speaker appointed her to two commissions.

In a 2019 op-ed article titled 'Sure, I dated Kamala Harris. So what?', Willie, 30 years Kamala's senior, wrote that the difference between her and the other politicians he had backed is that "Harris is the only one who, after I helped her, sent word that I would be indicted if I 'so much as jaywalked' while she was DA. That's politics for ya". Where Willie saw a jutting elbow, others could see an upright spine.

On the other hand, Usha's most intimate sketches come from her husband James's memoir, Hillbilly Elegy. He was a self-professed bumpkin from a small, post-industrial Ohio town trying to fit into Ivy League poshness at Yale Law School, where the "bright, hardworking, tall and beautiful" Usha became his "spirit guide" who had to teach him even fork-and-spoon etiquette. The bluntness of her feedback set her apart in the eyes of a "heart-sick" James, who ditched conventions to confess his love after their first date.

When James would withdraw into a shell, Usha would call him a "turtle". When he would scream and break up, she would make him see reason. When he once stormed out of a hotel after a fight, she sat crying on the steps of Ford's Theatre, where John Wilkes Booth had shot Abraham Lincoln.

When he first visited Usha's family, James was "amazed at the lack of drama": instead of cribbing behind others' backs, which he had been used to seeing, there was empathy. Chilukuri Radhakrishna, an aeronautical engineer, and his wife Lakshmi, a molecular biologist, had moved their Andhra roots to the US in 1980. Lakshmi taught at a Catholic university in San Diego, where Usha grew up.

Amy Chua, law professor and author who popularised the term 'tiger mom', knew of James's soaring ambition and advised the couple to do clerkships together. But not all the opportunities came in twos: Usha, the brighter student, got to clerk for Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Brett Kavanaugh, whom Kamala chargrilled at his senate confirmation hearing.

The rest is history in the making. As Kamala and Usha put their brown skin in the bruising game of politics, a line from the song '500 miles'— also the rough distance between San Diego and Oakland — seems to be propelling their trajectories in Washington: "Can't go back home the ole way."

NEWSMAKER

SC to hear plea on blood donation rules being 'biased' against LGBTQI

SUCHITRA K MOHANTY @ New Delhi

CAN an LGBTQI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex), person donate blood? The Supreme Court is likely to hear on Tuesday a PIL being recently filed by a Delhi-based gay man challenging the constitutional validity of blood donor rules, 2017.

The petition of Sharif D Rangnekar, director of Rainbow Literature Festival, is drafted by lawyer Rohin Bhatt and filed by Ibad Mushtaq. The blood donor rules were issued by the National Blood Transfusion Council, National Aids Control Organisation, and others. These permanently restrain transgenders, female sex workers and LGBTQI persons from donating blood.

Rangnekar said the rules were based on a highly prejudicial and presumptive view taken during 1980s in the US. Many countries such as the US, UK, Canada and Israel have revisited these guidelines and come out with fresh ones that do not impose a blanket restriction on gay men or gender queer persons from donating blood.

"It is presumed that a particular group of persons may be suffering from sexually transmitted diseases. Medical technology and education, especially in the field of haematology, has progressed tremendously. The screening of donors is conducted for every donation before a transfusion," says Rangnekar, in his PIL.

"Today, a blanket prohibition does not stand to reason," says the PIL requesting the court to pass appropriate orders. "The blanket prohibition is also a violation of the right to equality, dignity and life protected under Articles 14, 15, 17 and 21 of the Constitution," it argues.

ALSO IN TOP COURT

Man who created 294 fake firms gets bail

Supreme Court on Friday granted bail to a person accused of creating 294 fake firms and evading ₹1,032 crore worth of tax through issuance of fake invoices. The court said Ashutosh Garg, who was arrested under the GST Act in November 2023, has already undergone the period of custody.

Modi reviews LS poll show in meeting with BJP CMs

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

IN a meeting with chief ministers and deputy CMs of the BJP-ruled states on Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi asked them to reach out to people to explain the benefits of the union budget and central schemes, besides focusing on good governance, said party leaders aware of the developments at the meet.

Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP national president JP Nadda also attended the meeting called 'mukhyamantri parishad'. CMs Yogi Adityanath (UP), Himanta Biswa Sarma (Assam), Bhajan Lal Sharma (Rajasthan) and Mohan Charan Majhi (Odisha) attended the first day of the two-day meeting. CMs of Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Haryana, Manipur and Chhattisgarh were also part of the deliberations. It was the first time that Manipur CM N Biren Singh attended it after ethnic violence broke out.

This was the first meeting of BJP CMs after the recent outcomes of LS elections. "Deliberations were held over a host of issues, including reasons of good and bad LS poll results, the benefits budget and strategies related to upcoming elections in some states," a senior leader said, adding, Modi stressed on the need for taking benefits of Union Budget to people.

PM Narendra Modi being received by BJP chief JP Nadda upon his arrival for the Chief Ministers' meeting, at party headquarters on Saturday | SHEKHAR YADAV

"CMs and their subordinates also presented their report cards on performances and success of many welfare schemes. They have reportedly briefed the PM on people's feedbacks and how the governments in BJP ruled-states are working on poverty alleviation and employment generation," he said.

A discussion on several practices of good governance and the delivery of Central government welfare initiatives was also held. "Modi asked the CMs and their subordinates to ensure wider reach of the schemes," the leader said.

As the meeting was held amid the Opposition's criticism that the Budget ignored other states, proper implementation of schemes included in the budget was discussed.

Party sources added that governance issues were at the centre of the discussions, besides brainstorming on ensuring 100% win results in forthcoming assembly elections.

"The discussion on strengthening state-Centre relations for proper coordination on implementation of schemes was held," a party leader said.

₹5 cr earned from fines on spitting and littering at railway premises in 2 years

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

THE Indian Railways, in its gargantuan efforts to keep one of the largest railway networks in the world spic and span, has made a windfall from penalising the spitters and litter louts.

In last two years, the Railways has collected a whopping ₹5.13 crore by way of fines from 3,30,132 offenders violating the cleanliness norms at its premises, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw informed Rajya Sabha recently.

The minister highlighted that while Railways has been diligent in cleaning up areas soiled by tobacco chewers and litterbugs, maintaining cleanliness remains an ongoing challenge. "Cleanliness is a continuous process. Every effort is made to keep railway premises clean," Vaishnaw said.

Awareness campaigns are actively in place to educate passengers about maintaining cleanliness, the minister said, though specific details of campaigns targeting gutka consumption are not maintained.

While hefty fines are imposed for spitting and littering, there are no current proposals to raise the penalty, Vaishnaw said in a written reply. He said the Railways focuses on enforcing the existing rules, while ensuring that cleanliness campaigns are effectively communicated to passengers.

Meanwhile, the Railways has also significantly enhanced the presence of women in its security force, the Upper House was informed. Out of the total 63,051 personnel of the Railway Protection Force (RPF), around 5,900 — or 9.36 per cent — are women. This percentage is the highest among all the Central Armed Police Forces.

The minister said that a notification has been issued to fill up 4,660 vacant RPF posts. The RPF is operational at more than 750 railway stations, with women personnel posted at most of them, he added.

The Railways has also implemented a 'Meri Saheli' programme to enhance the safety of female passengers. Under this initiative, dedicated teams of female RPF personnel are deployed to provide security for women travelling alone on long-distance trains. On an average, 245 teams comprising 700 women RPF officers are engaged in this daily, Vaishnaw said.

Women's safety

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WHO alert on liver cancer deaths in SE Asia

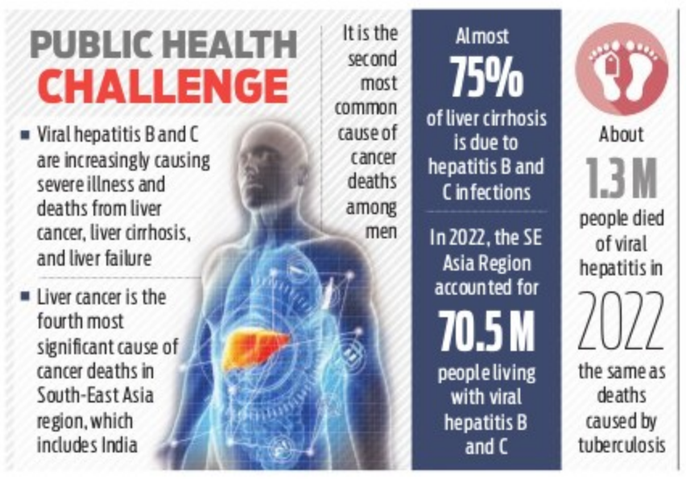
KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

LIVER cancer rates in the South-East Asia Region are set to double by 2050, leading to over 2,00,000 deaths annually, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said Friday.

Calling on countries in the South-East Asia Region to scale up efforts to provide universal access to prevention, vaccination, diagnosis and treatment of viral hepatitis B and C, the WHO said that despite being preventable and treatable, these chronic infections are increasingly causing severe illness and deaths from liver cancer, cirrhosis, and liver failure.

Liver cancer is the fourth most significant cause of cancer deaths in the region, which includes India, and the second most common cause of cancer deaths among men. Almost 75% of liver cirrhosis is due to hepatitis B and C infections.

In 2022, the South-East Asia Region accounted for 70.5 million people living with viral hepatitis B and C.



"Early testing and treatment can cure hepatitis C and prevent hepatitis B from causing liver cirrhosis and cancer and can help reverse the predictions that liver cancer rates in South-East Asia Region are set to double by 2050 to over 2 lakh deaths annually," said Saima Wazed, regional director of WHO, South-East Asia, on the World Hepatitis Day.

In 2022, about 1.3 million people died of viral hepatitis, the same as deaths caused by tuberculosis. Viral hepatitis and tuberculosis were the second leading causes of death among infectious diseases in 2022, after Covid-19.

"We have the knowledge and tools to prevent, diagnose and treat viral hepatitis. Yet people with chronic hepatitis B and C are still waiting to access the services they need. We need to accelerate efforts to deliver equitable services closer to communities, at the primary health care level," she added.

Globally, hepatitis B and C combined cause 3,500 deaths per day, with 6,000 people newly infected each day. An estimated 254 million people globally are living with hepatitis B, and 50 million people with hepatitis C.

Many people remain undiagnosed, and even when diagnosed, the number of people receiving treatment remains extremely low.

She said that in the South-East Asia Region, the coverage of hepatitis B and C testing and treatment remains low.

In 2022, only 2.8% of people with hepatitis B were diagnosed, and 3.5% of those diagnosed received treatment. Only 26% and 14% of people with hepatitis C were diagnosed and treated, respectively. "More needs to be done for the life-saving interventions to benefit each person," Wazed said.

J'KHAND CLASH

Over 15 people, including six cops, were injured in a clash between law enforcers and tribal students in Jharkhand's Pakur. Students denied entry of a police team in KKM College campus for an investigation into an abduction case.

2 KILLED | 13 HURT AS VAN RAMS INTO TRUCK IN UP

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	34	27	Mumbai	28	26
Bhopal	32	24	Panaji	29	27
Jaipur	35	28	Patna	35	27
Amritsar	39	29	Lucknow	36	29
Chennai	35	28	Port Blair	28	24
Kolkata	33	27	Imphal	28	23
Srinagar	33	16	Chandigarh	35	19

Checks on migrant workers hit Meghalaya hotel industry

Pressure groups worry about influx of illegal immigrants to the state

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

THE ongoing checking of documents of migrant labourers in Meghalaya by some "pressure groups" has taken a toll on the hotel industry, particularly in the state capital Shillong.

The pressure groups are worried about the influx of illegal immigrants to the state. Even as an anti-immigrant sentiment was brewing, tourists from different parts of the country had a harrowing time in the state on Friday when the members of a pressure group, Hynniewtrep National Youth Front, prevented the movement of Assam-registered tourist vehicles to tourist sites and checked the documents of the travellers.

Several vehicles were allegedly also sent back. The Meghalaya police wasted no time in taking action. Ten members of the pressure group were arrested in connection with the incident. The Federation of Shillong Hotels said the hotels suffered due to the cancellation of bookings.

"We recorded 30% cancellation of bookings yesterday. We anticipated 50% cancellation of bookings today but there was some recovery," Parambir Sehdave, president of the federation, told this newspaper.

"As stakeholders, we have apologised on behalf of the state for what the tourists had to go through. We are sorry that this has happened in our state. We hope that this will not happen again. We are taking some corrective measures," he said.

He said it was a one-off case and the situation was normal on Saturday.

"The vehicles from Assam carrying tourists are going to various tourist destinations in Meghalaya. There was no problem," he further stated.

For some time, the demand for the implementation of Inner Line Permit (ILP) and Meghalaya Residents Safety and Security Act, 2016 was getting intensified. ILP is an official travel document issued to allow inward travel of an Indian citizen into a protected area for a limited period.

The pressure groups, which believe these mechanisms will help check the migration of illegal immigrants, raided various construction sites to check the documents of migrant labourers. Recently, the Khasi Students' Union said it had driven out over 2,500 labourers as they failed to produce any documents to prove their nationality. During such raids, the pressure groups ask the labourers to produce "work permit". The state government says it issues "labour licence" and not work permit.

Ajit Pawar says enough funds for Ladli Behna

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

MAHARASHTRA Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, who also holds the finance portfolio, on Saturday dismissed media reports about the financial crunch shrouding the 'Ladli Behna' scheme in uncertainty, saying that there is no shortage of funds and the scheme will be implemented smoothly.

Questions on executing the scheme, which promises ~1,500 p/m to all eligible women, arose after the Maharashtra economic survey termed the financial situation "grim" with mounting loans of ~ 7 lakh crore and dwindling GDP.

Meanwhile, former union minister Sharad Pawar said the scheme was launched eying the upcoming state assembly elections. He said there are rumours that the scheme would be withdrawn once the polls are over. Slamming the state government, the Opposition said that despite the debt over Maharashtra rising, the state government has launched the 'Ladli Behna' scheme with big fanfare. "It is populist scheme or revadi in the language of PM Narendra Modi who opposed such culture, but his own government is after such short term sops to get votes. But the people are smart and understand why the scheme was launched three months ahead of polls," said a Sena leader.

Nitish's son says he's not interested in joining politics

RAMASHANKAR @Patna

IT came from the horse's mouth when Nishant Kumar, the only son of Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar, hinted that he had no plans to join active politics. With his remarks, speculation about Nishant joining active politics was put to rest, at least for the time being.

"I am moving towards spirituality. I have come here to buy a speaker to listen 'Hare Rama Hare Krishna' bhajans better. I listen to this bhajan every morning on my phone. With a new device, I can hear it in a better way," Nishant told the media when he was greeted with questions at the Patna market in the state capital.

Though he didn't prefer to talk about his political ambition, he gave enough hints that he had no immediate plans to enter politics as suggested by some Janata Dal (United) leaders some time ago. It was the 49-year-old's maiden media interaction after rumours spread that he may be given command of Janata Dal (United).

After coming out from the commercial complex known as a hub of electronics goods, Nishant sat in the waiting car and moved towards his destination as security personnel escorting Nishant opened the door of the vehicle. "I am following the path of spirituality. That's all," he asserted.

Nishant, an engineering graduate like his father, is not seen at public places with his chief minister father as siblings of other politicians do. He is still a bachelor and lives with his father at 1, Anne Marg, the official residence of the chief minister, after the demise of his mother Manju Sinha.

At times, he accompanies the CM to their native village Kalyanbigha in Nalanda to pay tributes to Manju, a retired government schoolteacher. The rumours about Nishant likely to be given a responsibility intensified last month when Vidyanand Vikal, JD(U) associate posted that Bihar needs young leadership in the new political scenario.

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR
Our correspondent in Guwahati
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Regional party wants united fight against NDA

Regional party Raijor Dal wants the opposition parties to put up a united fight against the NDA in the by-elections to five Assembly seats. The seats had fallen vacant after the sitting MLAs got elected to Lok Sabha. Raijor Dal proposed that the Congress should contest three seats and leave one seat each to regional and Left parties. "The dark clouds of communal politics, which emerged in 2014, have not yet disappeared from the skies. We were able to fight the BJP-RSS to some extent in the Lok Sabha polls but we must not be over-confident. We all must work hard to keep our unity intact," Raijor Dal chief Akhil Gogoi said.

'Fake encounter' killing case in high court

The killing of three persons from the Hmar community in a recent alleged fake encounter in Cachar district has reached the Gauhati High Court. As the postmortem report was awaited due to non-receipt of the report of chemical analysis of viscera, the court directed the state government to expedite the report. The court also directed that if the families did not desire to take custody of the bodies, they be kept in the hospital morgue for the time being. The police claimed the three persons, who were apprehended with arms, got killed during a special operation against suspected militants.

Music director missing, searches on

Six days on but there is no trace of Assamese music legend Ramen Baruah. He went out of his Guwahati residence on Monday morning but did not return. Based on CCTV evidence and eyewitnesses' accounts, the police said he was last seen walking towards the Brahmaputra at around 10:09 am on Monday. Police Commissioner Diganta Barah said the police did not get any evidence Baruah returned from the riverbank. The State Disaster Response Force is conducting searches. After talking to police commissioner, CM Himanta Biswa Sarma said Baruah was hurt mentally when he stepped out.

State of affairs: BJP neta, cop held for smuggling liquor in 'dry' Gujarat

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @Ahmedabad

THE liquor ban in Gujarat is exposed again: Jayesh Bhavsar, a local BJP leader in Sabarkantha, was apprehended on Thursday with a substantial quantity of alcohol along with a police officer.

Jayesh Bhavsar was arrested in Bildia village, Vijayanagar taluka, of the district. At the time of his arrest, armed assistant sub-inspector Praveen Kumar, from the Shahibagh police headquarters in Ahmedabad, was with him. The police seized 893 bottles of liquor and beer from the accused.

BJP has, however, denied Jayesh's association with the party.

Recent times have seen a surge in incidents of liquor and drug smuggling in Gujarat. What's particularly alarming is the involvement of the police in these activities. Not long ago, constable Neeta Chaudhary was caught with a bootlegger in Bhachau, Kutch district, but managed to evade arrest initially. She has since been apprehended.

Police said they acted on a tip-off about an XUV carrying foreign liquor from Rajasthan heading towards Ahmedabad via Chitaria. The police mounted surveillance at the Chithoda police station in Sabarkantha district.

The police intercepted the vehicle by setting up a barricade. They discovered boxes of foreign liquor hidden near the middle and back seats of the car. The vehicle was being driven by the police officer

The police have confiscated 893 bottles of foreign liquor and beer from the suspects, with a total value of nearly Rs 2 lakh.

Sources said the accused BJP worker Jayesh Bhavsar was appointed to the divisional rail users consultative committee of the Ahmedabad division from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2023. Bhavsar also served as the president of the BJP's Asarwa Ward in Ahmedabad.

Woman, daughter buried alive in Tehri Garhwal

NARENDRA SETHI @Dehradun

> **On Thursday night, the house of local resident Veerendra Lal was hit by a landslide. His wife and daughter were buried alive under the debris while they were sleeping** — Ramesh Jirwal, head of Toli village

A series of landslides triggered by incessant heavy rains for three days in the hilly areas of Uttarakhand have brought death and destruction in interior villages. A woman and her daughter were crushed to death in their sleep as their house was buried under the debris of a landslide that struck late Friday night in Toli village, Bhilangana block, Tehri district. Villagers had to flee their homes in the dead of night.

In another incident, a one-day-old infant from Sahiya in the Chakrata area died while being taken to a medical centre for treatment. The family's vehicle got stuck in the landslide, causing the death of the newborn.

According to information received from the Community Health Center (CHC) in Sahiya, a one-day-old infant was referred to a higher medical facility for treatment. The family was traveling to Vikasnagar when their vehicle was stuck due to debris on the Kalsi-Chakrata motor road at Jajard. Despite waiting for two hours for the road to clear, the family was unable to find an alternative route, and the newborn died on the way.

Teams from the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and the police have rushed to the village. Meanwhile, all schools in Bhilangana block are closed following heavy rains. The administration has appealed to villagers to remain vigilant.

Speaking to this newspaper, Ramesh Jirwal, the head of Toli village, recounted the tragic incident. "Around 2:30 am last night, heavy rains lashed the area. The house of Veerendra Lal, a Toli village resident, was hit by a landslide. His wife, Sarita Devi, 36, and their 15-year-old daughter, Ankita, were buried alive in the debris while they were sleeping."

Inspector Kavindra Sajwan of SDRF said a grueling search and rescue operation lasting an hour and a half led to the recovery of the bodies."

State Disaster Management Department sources said the junior high school building in Tingarh village has been completely damaged due to the landslide. The pedestrian bridge connecting Vishan village to Dala village has also been washed away.

In yet another incident on Saturday, a vehicle bearing a Maharashtra registration number was involved in an accident on the way from Badrinath. SDRF sources said a vehicle carrying the couple skidded off the road and teetered on the edge of a cliff. The driver got out but wife remained trapped.

Traffic hit on road to Manali from Chandigarh

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

THE Chandigarh-Manali highway from Bindravani to Pandoh will be closed for traffic daily for two hours till July 31 due to hazardous conditions caused by recent landslides along the stretch and to facilitate repairs.

Mandi deputy commissioner Apoorv Devgan, the chairman of the District Disaster Management Authority, announced a temporary highway closure and said it would be in force for two hours between 11 am and 1 pm from July 27 to July 31.

The DC said he received reports from the project director of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) about hazardous conditions on the stretch. "Heavy rains on July 20 triggered landslides which threaten vehicle movement. "These conditions pose a risk to motorists," the NHAI told the district administration.

The daily closure might cause temporary inconvenience but was a necessary to prevent accidents, Devgan said.

Speculation rife on PM's August visit to Ukraine

YESHI SELI @New Delhi

SPECULATION is rife on PM Narendra Modi travelling to Ukraine in August, a month after he visited Russia following the NDA's third consecutive victory. Though there is no official word from the government or the Ukrainian side in Delhi, it has not been denied either. An announcement could be made closer to the departure.

This will be Modi's first visit to Ukraine ever since Russia invaded the neighbour on February 24, 2022. Ukraine celebrates its national day on August 24, so Modi's visit could be around that time. The prime minister is also likely to go to Poland after Kyiv. "When Modi visited Moscow earlier this month, he spoke about a peaceful resolution of the conflict and expressed grief over the death of children (following reports of a hospital attack in Kyiv). He also shared with President Vladimir Putin on the likelihood of his visiting Ukraine subsequently," according to a source.

MP Sadhvi cleans out ₹90L from seer's account, case filed

ANURAAG SINGH @Bhopal

POLICE in Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh are on the lookout for a Sadhvi, who is accused of fraudulently withdrawing ₹90 lakh from the bank account of her guru who died in a road accident last year. A case was registered against Sadhvi Laxmidas alias Rina Raghuvanshi (a resident of Bhopal) and aides at the Chourai police station of Chhindwara district recently for cheating, criminal breach of trust and dishonest misappropriation of immovable property.

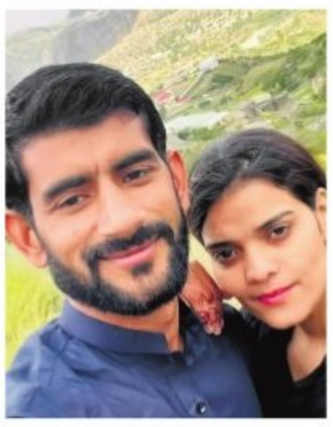
The Sadhvi is accused of fraudulently transferring around ₹90 lakh from her Guru Kanak Bihari Das Maharaj's bank account (in a nationalised bank) into her account and then withdrawing the sum between December 2023 and January 2024 in Ayodhya. The seer Kanak Bihari had reportedly donated ₹1 crore for the construction of Ram Temple in Ayodhya before dying in a road accident on April 17, 2023. The head of Chhindwara's Chourai police station told *TNSE*, "We're searching for the Sadhvi. Prima facie investigations have revealed that the woman withdrew the money in UP's Ayodhya from the deceased seer's bank account. Prima facie it's a case of cheating and fraud. We're making efforts to track and arrest her." After the seer's death, the mobile number (through which his bank account was linked) was surrendered by his followers and de-activated.

In the complaint filed by the seer's follower Shyamdas Maharaj, it is alleged that the Sadhvi in nexus with her aides got the cell number activated again and then fraudulently got money from that bank account (which had no nominee) transferred into her bank account using UPI and net banking routes.

The alleged cheating and criminal breach of trust came to the fore earlier this month, when the deceased seer's followers came to know about the money having been withdrawn from the bank. Kanak Bihari, who was a revered seer of the Raghuvanshi community in Chhindwara, had not declared anyone as his nominee.

A lot to watch in this cross-border love triangle!

RAJESH ASNANI @Jaipur



IN another instance of a cross-border relationship, a 25-year-old Pakistani woman claims she has married a man from Rajasthan. The woman, named Mehvish, has crossed the border to come to Bikaner district to be with the man, Rehman, whom she met on Facebook.

Mehvish, a resident of Lahore, shared her story with the media. The woman said she travelled from Islamabad to the Wagah border with her family on July 25.

"After my documents were checked by Pakistani and Indian authorities, I entered India on a 45-day tourist visa. Rehman's family picked me up and brought me to their village, Pithisar," she said.

The arrival of Mehvish has caught the attention of intelligence and security agencies, which are now investigating her. Local police have also questioned her.

"We verified her passport and visa," a police officer from Bikaner said. Rehman, who married Farida from Bhadra in 2011, has two children. The couple had a falling out, and Farida is currently living with her parents. Upon learning about Mehvish, Farida went to the Bikaner police station and filed a complaint, alleging that Mehvish might be a spy and demanded an investigation. "Farida also claimed that Rehman had not legally divorced her and that his second marriage was unauthorised. She is determined to fight a legal battle, feeling wronged by the situation," the police officer said.

Mehvish told the media that she lost her mother when she was just two years old, and her father passed away about 15 years ago. Twelve years ago, she moved to Islamabad to live with her sister, Sahima. She trained herself at a beauty parlour for two months and has been running her own parlour for the past one decade.

In 2006, Mehvish married a man from Badami Bagh, and they had two sons, now aged 12 and 7. The couple divorced in 2018, and her ex-husband remarried.

Mehvish said she proposed to Rehman, a transporter then working in Kuwait, for marriage on March 13, 2022, after consulting her sister and brother-in-law. Just three days after the proposal, Mehvish married Rehman via video conference on March 16, 2022.

"We later met and married in person in Mecca during Umrah pilgrimage in 2023," Mehvish said. They announced their marriage on social media, which was how their families learned of their union.

The present case echoes previous cross-border romances. Recently, Seema Haider from Pakistan came to India for love, and Anju from Rajasthan's Alwar district left her husband and children to marry Nasrullah in Pakistan, only to return later. Seema Haider sneaked into India with her four children to marry a Noida man who she befriended on a mobile game.

In another recent case, Karachi resident Ameena decided to tie the knot with her Indian fiancee Arbaaz Khan virtually after she failed to obtain a visa for her marriage. Arbaaz Khan, a chartered accountant, reached Jodhpur's Oswal Samaj Bhawan with his friends and family for the marriage. The ceremony was officiated by the Jodhpur qazi.

'Married in Mecca'

Mehvish said she proposed to Rehman, a transporter then working in Kuwait, for marriage on March 13, 2022, after consulting her sister and brother-in-law. Just three days after the proposal, Mehvish married Rehman via video conference on March 16, 2022. "We later met and married in person in Mecca during Umrah pilgrimage in 2023," Mehvish said. They announced their marriage on social media, which was how their families learned of their union.

8 killed
after car crashed into pedestrians in central China's Hunan Province on Saturday

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	31	19	SNY	Los Angeles	28	19	LC
Colombo	30	25	TDS	Melbourne	20	9	LR
Dhaka	33	26	TDS	Moscow	17	10	HR
Dubai	38	27	SNY	New York	28	19	SNY
Houston	31	23	TDS	Singapore	31	24	TDS
Istanbul	29	21	LC	Toronto	18	13	LC
London	22	17	LC	Washington	31	21	LC

At least 30 killed in Israeli strike on girls' school in central Gaza: Hamas

WAR WATCH
ISRAEL-GAZA: DAY 295

TOLL SO FAR
40,986

Israel says militant group stored weapons and planned attacks from the building

Palestinians inspect the damage following an Israeli air strike on the Khadija school housing displaced people in Deir al-Balah in central Gaza Strip | AFP

DEIR AL-BALAH

THE health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said an Israeli strike on a school killed 30 people on Saturday, after a days-long military operation further south killed around 170, according to emergency services.

The latest strike, which Israel said targeted "terrorists", was at least the eighth time since July 6 a school has been hit, leaving a total of more than 100 people dead, based on figures given by the health ministry and a hospital source.

With most of the Gaza Strip's 2.4 million people displaced at least once during the war started by Hamas's October 7 attack, many have sought refuge in school buildings including the one hit on Saturday.

The health ministry reported "30 martyrs and more than 100 wounded" in the strike at Khadija school in the central Deir el-Balah area.

Israel says 9 killed in Golan

Israel's military said Palestinian militants were using the compound as a "hiding place". ans. Hezbollah on Saturday announced several attacks on Israeli military sites after a strike in southern Lebanon killed four of its fighters.

Israeli medics and police said a barrage of rockets hit the annexed Golan Heights, killing nine people and wounding 34, including children.

Lebanese militant group Hezbollah denied Saturday that it fired a rocket that killed nine people in the town of Majdal Shams in the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights. "The Islamic Resistance has no connection to this incident," it said, referring to its military wing.

Al-Qahera News, which has links to Egyptian intelligence, reported on Friday that talks "to reach an agreement on a truce in Gaza" would take place in Rome on Sunday.

In a meeting in Washington on Thursday, US President Joe Biden called on Netanyahu to "finalise" a deal, the White House said. In comments on social media platform X after the Deir al-Balah strike, EU foreign affairs chief Josep Borrell said a "ceasefire must happen now". He deplored "yet another attack on a school used as a shelter" as "an already very fragile population is asked to relocate again and again".

"Only a political solution will end this madness". *Agencies*

ISRAEL ISSUES NEW EVACUATION ORDER

The Israeli military issued new evacuation orders for residents of southern Gaza's Khan Yunis city on Saturday

170 people
Killed since Israel started its military operation around Khan Yunis on Monday, Gaza Strip's civil defence agency said on Saturday

1,80,000
Palestinians have already fled fierce fighting in Khan Yunis since the military began its operation in the area last Monday, the United Nations said

WHAT'S ISRAEL'S TARGET?

The Israeli military said it launched the operation to halt rocket fire from the area

SECOND SUCH ORDER IN A WEEK

It's the second evacuation order issued in a week that has included striking part of the humanitarian zone, a 60-square-kilometer blanketed with tent camps that lack sanitation and medical facilities and have limited access to aid, United Nations and humanitarian groups say

Gaza Health Ministry officials said the evacuation orders had forced at least three health centers to stop providing care

Day after sabotage, dozens of train services remain cancelled

PARIS

TENS of thousands of rail passengers struggled through a second day of cancelled trains Saturday as investigators tracked saboteurs who paralysed the network just ahead of the Paris Olympics opening ceremony.

The SNCF rail company chief Jean-Pierre Farandou said services would be back to normal by Monday. But deputy transport minister authorities acknowledged that 1,60,000 of the 8,00,000 people due to travel this weekend still faced cancellations.

Nearly one third of trains were cancelled in northern, western and eastern France. About a quarter of Eurostar high speed trains between London and Paris also failed to leave. No claim of responsibility has been made for the meticulously planned night-time attacks on cabling boxes at junctions north, southwest and east of the French capital, just ahead of Friday's Olympics opening ceremony in Paris. Maintenance workers thwarted a fourth attack.

Travelers waits inside the Gare du Nord train station in Paris on Friday | AP

But Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said the investigation was progressing.

"We have uncovered a certain number of elements that allow us to think that we will soon know who is responsible for what clearly did not sabotage the Olympic Games but did sabotage part of the holidays of the French people," Darmanin told France 2 television. French authorities are on high alert for a terrorist attack during the Games, which run through August 11. Tens of thousands of police and troops are on Olympics security duties. Some 2,50,000 people missed their train on Friday, according to SNCF, because of the attacks that dozens of investigators are now working on.

About three out of every 10 trains were cancelled on Saturday in the three regions affected by the attacks, with most trains still operating delayed by between one and two hours, SNCF said. *AFP*

US presses China over PLA manoeuvres near Taiwan, in South China Sea

VIENTIANE

THE United States hailed "open and productive" discussions between China's foreign minister and Secretary of State Antony Blinken in Laos on Saturday in which Blinken raised US concerns over Beijing's "provocative actions" around Taiwan.

Blinken's stop in Laos is part of a multi-nation Asia visit aimed at reinforcing regional ties in the face of Beijing's growing assertiveness, including in the South China Sea, and its deepening ties with Moscow.

The talks on the sidelines of a foreign ministers meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) lasted for one hour and twenty minutes, according to a senior State Department official.

Blinken raised "US concerns about provocative actions" by China, including a simulated blockade of Taiwan following the May inauguration of its new president Lai Ching-te, the official said.

China claims the democratic island as its territory and slammed Lai's inauguration speech as "confession of independence." China's foreign ministry was yet to release a statement on the meeting.

Shortly before the meeting Blinken hit out at Beijing's "escalatory and unlawful actions" in the South China Sea, where China and the Philippines are locked in a territorial dispute.

Beijing claims the waterway — through which trillions of dollars of trade passes annually — almost in its entirety despite an international court ruling that its assertion has no legal basis. A Filipino sailor lost a thumb in the latest June 17 confrontation when Chinese coast guard members wielding knives, sticks and an axe foiled a Philippine Navy attempt to resupply its troops. *AFP*

Pak jittery as loan talks with China stall

ISLAMABAD/KARACHI

TWO key Pakistani ministers are camping in Beijing to discuss the cash-strapped country's request for rescheduling its outstanding debts with China linked to the ambitious China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Muhammad Aurangzeb, Pakistan's Minister for Finance and Revenue, and Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Laghari, the Minister for Energy are both in Beijing for the last three days, media reports said here on Saturday. The duo is meeting one authority and agency after the other, including Pan Gongsheng, Governor People's Bank of China (PBoC), and Cao Yuanyuan, Deputy Secretary-General of National Association of Financial Market Institutional Investors (NAFMII).

The concern is that China was initially reluctant to discuss the issue, leading to a delayed visit, signalling their disagreement with Pakistan over talks related to energy loans, media reports said.

"'Pakistan formally requested China on Thursday to reschedule its debts, with outstanding dues for China-Pakistan Economic Corridor power projects increasing by 44 per cent to Rs 401 billion by the end of the last fiscal year," *The Express Tribune* newspaper said.

PIO joins Labour Party's executive committee

LONDON

DR Neeraj Patil, a leading NRI and former Mayor of the London Borough of Lambeth, has been appointed to the National Executive Committee, the highest decision-making body of Britain's ruling Labour Party. Patil's appointment to the National Executive Committee (NEC) has been confirmed by General Secretary of the Labour Party David Evans in a letter last week. The NEC, which governs the Labour Party, setting the overall strategic direction and policy development, consists of 39 members, including Prime Minister Keir Starmer, representatives from trade unions, MPs, and party members.

Born in Kalburgi in Karnataka, Patil had his initial education in India. He then completed his post-graduation from the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh with an FRCS & MRCS in Accident and Emergency (A&E). A consultant in Accident and Emergency Medicine with 28 years of service in the National Health Service (NHS), he has been an active Labour Party member for 20 years.

He was twice elected to the National Policy Forum of the Labour Party. *PTI*

ASIA MATTERS

THAILAND

THREE-FOLD INCREASE IN TIGER NUMBER

In Thailand's Western Forest Complex (WEFCOM), the tiger population is estimated to have tripled between 2007 and 2023, CNN reported. There were 41 tigers in WEFCOM in 2007. Their count has increased to 143 in 2023 in the 18,000-square-kilometer WEFCOM. "When we conserve tigers, it leads to conserving many other species: not only the prey but also the habitat," Pornkamol Jornburom of the Wildlife Conservation Society, Thailand told CNN. She said the increase in tiger population is a result of over a decade of conservation interventions.

MALAYSIA

SOCIAL MEDIA LICENSE RULES FROM JANUARY 1

License requirements for social media and messaging companies with more than eight million users will take effect on January 1, the country's internet regulator said. "This measure will create a safer online ecosystem and a better user experience," the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission said in a statement.

SINGAPORE

30% COMPANIES VIOLATE HEAT SAFETY RULES

At least 30% of the workplaces in the city-state breached heat safety rules, an inspection by the Ministry of Manpower has found. At 78 such workplaces, employees were not given adequate rest breaks, *The Straits Times* reported. These workplaces also failed to put their employees through heat acclimatisation programmes, the report said. However, some companies did more than what was required. "Some companies have also gone beyond the required measures to provide ice slurry or cold isotonic drinks for workers," the ministry said.

EXPRESS READ

Greek island mulls restrictions to curb overtourism

Oia: One of the most enduring images of Greece's summer travel brand is the world-famous sunset on Santorini Island, framed by sea-blue church domes on a jagged cliff high above a volcanic caldera. This scene has inspired millions of fridge magnets, posters, and souvenirs — and now the queue to reach the viewing spot in the clifftop village of Oia can take more than 20 minutes. Santorini is a key stopover of the Greek cruise experience. But with parts of the island nearing saturation, officials are considering restrictions. Of the record 32.7 million people who visited Greece last year, around 3.4 million, or one in 10, went to the island of just 15,500 residents. "We need to set limits if we don't want to sink under overtourism," Santorini mayor Nikos Zorzos told AFP. "There must not be a single extra bed... whether in the large hotels or Airbnb rentals." As the sun set behind the horizon in Oia, thousands raised their phones to the sky to capture the moment, followed by scattered applause. For canny entrepreneurs, the Cycladic island's famous sunset can be a cash cow. One company advertised more than 50 "flying dresses", which have long flowing trains, for up to 370 euros ($401), on posters around Oia for anyone who wishes to "feel like a Greek goddess" or spruce up selfies. AFP

PUBLIC NOTICE

To, M/s. SSSN Projects Pvt. Ltd., [Previously named M/s Sri Sathya Sai Narayana Hospitals Pvt. Ltd.) No.31, 3rd Cross, RMV 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560 094. Rep. by its Director
Also at
M/s. SSSN Projects Pvt. Ltd., [Previously named M/s Sri Sathya Sai Narayana Hospitals Pvt. Ltd.] Office at, 26/1, Jalaparamount, 2nd Floor, 1st Cross, Ulsoor Road, Bangalore-560 042, Rep by its Director Suresh Kumar Sadipiralla
And also at
M/s. SSSN Projects Pvt. Ltd., [Previously named M/s Sri Sathya Sai Narayana Hospitals Pvt. Ltd.] No.537, 4th Floor, Amarjyothi Layout, Domlur, Bangalore-560 071. Authorized representative Sri. Nallari Prahasith Sai Reddy

This is for your kind notice that my clients Sri.C.Jayaram and three Others have filed Review Petition No:655/2022 before the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka Bengaluru Bench, seeking review of the order dated 19-07-2022 passed by the division bench of Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in Writ Appeal No:381/2022 (LA-KIADB) in which you have been arrayed as respondent no.3. in the said review petition since notice issued to you to the address shown in the Writ Petition No. 11615/2020 and also in Writ Appeal No.381/2022 has been return with a postal shara that no such address and in view of the same when the said review petition no:655/2022 was listed before the court on 19-07-2024, it was submitted before the court to issue notice to you through correct address and I have been directed to proceed according to order V rule 20(1-A) of C.P.C, hence this Notice.

WHEREFORE you are hereby informed to appear before the court in the above said Review Petition No:655/2022 forthwith, in the manner known to law.

R. V. Srinivasa Reddy
Advocate for petitioner no.1 and 2.

Indian Overseas Bank | **JIGANI BRANCH:** No:48,100 Feet Ring Road, Near APC Circle, II Phase, Jigani Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, PIN:560105.

DEMAND NOTICE

Demand notice to Borrowers / Mortgagors/Guarantors Under Sub-section (2) of section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002

To, (1) Mr. Gangappa S/o. Mr.Ramaiah, No:137, Varadrapalya, Haragadde Post, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-560105 **(Address 1), (2) Mr. Gangappa S/o. Mr. Ramaiah,** 2nd Cross, Gangamma Circle, Vadrapalya, Haragadde Post, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-560105 **(Address 2).**

Dear Madam **Demand Notice Dated: 16-07-2024**

Re: Your Credit facilities with Indian Overseas Bank, JIGANI Branch

1. You, the above named borrowers of our bank have availed the following credit facilities from our **JIGANI Branch:** The details of credit facilities with outstanding dues are as under:

S. No.	Nature of Facility	Limit	Rates of Interest (Including overdue interest) & rests interest)	Last Interest Debit Date (Mandatory)	Total Dues* as on 16-07-2024 (in Rs.)
1.	RSUBH	1150000.00	11.90	30.06.2024	1316010.94
2.	CCMUD	300000.00	12.15	17.06.2024	579875.98
	Total	**14,50,000.00**			**18,95,886.92**

* With further interest from last interest debit date at contractual rates/rests will become payable from the date mentioned above till date of payment.

The Above named guarantors referred under Sl.Nos NA have executed guarantee and thereby guaranteed payment on demand of all moneys and discharge all obligations and liabilities then or at any time thereafter owing or incurred to Indian Overseas Bank by the borrowers for the aggregate credit limits of Rs 1450000.00 together with agreed interest, charges etc.

The credit facilities were secured by the assets mentioned below by way of mortgage standing in the name of the borrower Nos 1,. They were also secured by mortgage of properties in the name of borrower/mortgagor mentioned in Sl.No.1,. They were also secured by mortgage of properties in the name of mortgagor/guarantor Nos herein above.

The guarantors mentioned under Sl. Nos NA of you have given personal guarantee for the credit facilities as given above.

You have acknowledged from time to time the liabilities mentioned herein above through various documents executed by you.

2. The details of securities in favour of the Bank for the aforesaid credit facilities are:

Nature of security	Particulars of securities
1. Mortgage	All that Piece and Parcel of the converted residential im-movable property bearing site no:68,Property No:405,Janjar No:546 situated at Vaddrapalaya haragadde grama panchayat,Jigani Hobli,Anekal Taluk,Bangalore Urban District measuring, East to West:30 Feet, North to South:30 Feet, And bounded on **East By:**Gangamma's Property, **West By:**Gundappa's Property(Now sold to Yellamma), **North By:**Panchayat Road, **South By:**Gangamma's Property.

** The Bank reserves its right to proceed against the agricultural land security Nos. 6 above through other available legal course of action.

3. Consequent upon defaults committed by the above named borrowers in payment of the principal debt / interest as per agreed terms, loan account mentioned above have been classified as **Non-Performing Asset on 30/04/2019** (date of classification as NPA) as per Reserve Bank of India guidelines and directives. Despite our reminders for regularization of your account, you have not repaid the overdue loans including interest thereon.
4. Since you the above named borrowers referred under Sl. Nos 1, have failed to meet the liabilities in respect of the credit facilities duly secured by various securities mentioned above and upon classification of your account as a Non-Performing Asset, we hereby recall our advances to Sl.Nos 1, of you and give you notice under sub-section (2) of section 13 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and call upon you to pay in full and discharge your liabilities to the bank aggregating to **Rs.1895886.92,** as detailed in para 1 above, with further interest @..... % compounded with monthly/ half yearly as agreed, from the date mentioned above, within 60 days from the date of receipt of this notice.
5. The above named mortgagor have given undertaking for repayment / guarantee for the credit facilities taken by the borrowers and have also mortgaged the properties herein mentioned to secure the above said credit facilities. Since the borrowers have committed defaults in repayment, the mortgagors/guarantors have become liable to pay to us in terms of the guarantee, the amounts due to the Bank as per the loan/credit facilities aggregating to **Rs.1895886.92/- (Rs.Eighteen Lakhs Ninety Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty Six and Ninety Two Paise)** together with further interest @ ....% compounded with monthly/ half yearly as agreed and we hereby invoke the guarantee against the mortgagors / guarantors who have given non-agri securities enforceable under the SARFAESI Act namely of you and call upon you to pay the said amount within sixty days from the date of receipt of this notice. Please be advised that the Guarantors liability is co-extensive with the liability of the borrowers.
6. We further give notice to the borrowers namely 1, and mortgagors/guarantors who have given non-agri securities enforceable under the SARFAESI Act namely that failing payment of the above amount in full with interest and charges etc till the date of payment, we shall be exercising all or any of the rights vested on us, under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the said Act.
7. Please note that in law the borrowers and guarantors are jointly and severally liable to repay the dues with further interest and charges etc.
8. Please note that interest will continue to accrue at the rates and rests as agreed for each credit facility until full repayment.
9. Your attention is also invited to sub-section (13) of section 13 of the said Act in terms of which you are restrained from transferring/alienating/shifting any of the secured assets referred to above by way of sale, lease or otherwise, without obtaining our prior written consent. Please also note that non-compliance / contravention of the provisions contained in the said Act or Rules made thereunder, is an offence which is punishable with imprisonment and/or fine as provided under section 29 of the Act.
10. The guarantors referred under Sl.Nos NA have given personal guarantee to secure the loans of the said borrowers and as such we advise you to prevail upon the borrowers to repay the dues as per our demand since we have the right to initiate action against you simultaneously in accordance with law, for recovery of our dues based on your personal guarantee.
11. **We also put all of you on notice that if the account is not regularized/ repaid within the stipulated time and in case of the Bank classifying you as a willful defaulter as per RBI Guidelines, the Bank reserves its rights to publish your photograph in newspaper(s) with your name, address, details of default, dues etc., in accordance with RBI Guidelines besides initiating all recourses available to the Bank for recovery.**
12. We also advise you that this demand notice is without prejudice to and shall not be construed as waiver of any other rights or remedies which we have for recovery of the above said dues as well as our right to make further demands in respect of sums due and payable by you.
13. Further, your attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to you, to redeem the secured assets.

Date: 27-07-2024, Place: Jigani **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Indian Overseas Bank**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The undersigned intends to buy the property mentioned in the Schedule here below from its owner Sri. Nithish Adithya. K.S. Aged about 28 years, S/o Sri. Siddarangaswamy, residing at 1842, 1st Main, 7th Cross, Medplus Pharmacy, Judicial Layout, Yelahanka, G.K.V.K. Post, Bangalore, 560065.

Any person/entity/firm/company/institution having any right, title, interest, claim or demand in or to the Schedule property and/or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, gift, lease, tenancy, license, assignment, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, family arrangement/ settlement, encumbrance, inheritance, bequest, easement, possession, maintenance, development rights, order/decree/judgement of any court, agreement or otherwise, howsoever, to the Schedule property is required to intimate the same, together with copies of all the documentary proof in support thereof, to the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, it shall be deemed that no person/entity/firm/company/institution, have any right, title, claim, or demand in the Schedule property, and the undersigned shall proceed with the transaction.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing Site No.489, in the layout named as Rajeev Gandhi Nagar 2nd Phase, N.T.I. Layout, approved by B.D.A. in several survey numbers at Kodigehalli, Byatatayanapura, Kothihosahalli, Villages, Yelahanka Hobli, previously Bangalore North Taluk, presently, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore, having BDA Khatha Sl.No.BDA/RO(N)/489/2012-13, Property ID No.6000010911, measuring East to West: 43 feet and North to South: 30 feet, totally measuring 1290 Sq.feet., and Bounded on the **East:** by Road, **West:** by Site No.460, **North:** by Site No.489-A, **South:** by Site No.488.

For and on behalf of the **HARISH K. S/o Krishnamurthy K.V., Residing at : No 13, 1st Main Road, Parvathamma Layout, Tindlu, Bengaluru-560097, Mob No : 9632541684**

Date:28.07.2024

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BENJAMIN DISRAELI

$18,000 per capita income India needs to achieve to become a developed nation by 2047, according to Vikshit Bharat@2047 approach paper

Q1FY25RESUTS

Healthy numbers driven by 7.3% higher net interest income and improved asset quality

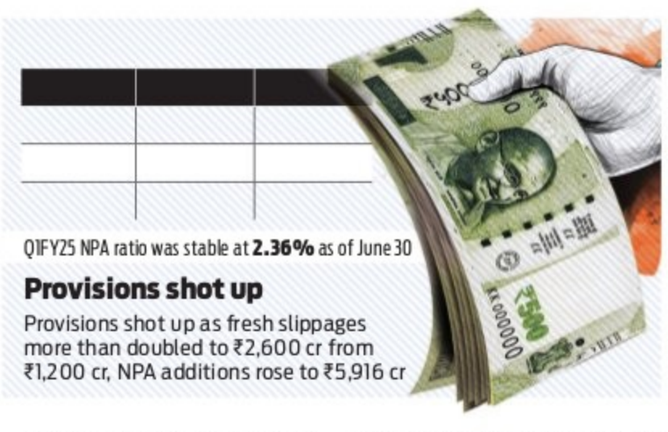
ICICI Bank net profit rises 14.6%; slippages double

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

THE country's second-largest private sector lender ICICI Bank on Saturday delivered a street-beating set of numbers with net income rising 14.6% to ₹11,059.1 crore for the June quarter, boosted by non-interest income led by treasury gains and dividends from subsidiaries.

The healthy numbers are driven by 7.3% higher net interest income that came in at ₹19,552.9 crore and improved asset quality with the gross non-performing assets coming down to 2.15% and net NPAs remaining steady at 0.43% as against 0.42% last year. But the bank management led by the executive director Sandeep Batra and the chief financial officer Anindya Banerjee told reporters on Saturday that their provisions for the quarter rose 3.1% to ₹1,332.2 crore, driven by some stress in the unsecured and agri books. But on a sequential basis, the provisions surged 85.4%.

While the net interest rose 7.3% to ₹19,552.9 crore, net interest margin printed in at 4.36% as against 4.4% in Q4FY24 and 4.78% in Q1FY24.



Q1FY25 NPA ratio was stable at **2.36%** as of June 30

Provisions shot up

Provisions shot up as fresh slippages more than doubled to ₹2,600 cr from ₹1,200 cr, NPA additions rose to ₹5,916 cr

Of the total income non-interest income, excluding treasury, rose 23.3% to ₹6,389 crore and fee income grew 13.4% to ₹5,490 crore, of which fee from retail, rural, business banking and SME customers constituted 78% of total fees in the reporting period. Treasury chipped in with almost three times more at ₹613 crore over ₹252 crore a year ago reflecting realised and mark-to-market gains in equity shares and security receipts. Provisions for securities stood at ₹1,332 crore compared to ₹1,292 crore.

Provisions shot up because fresh slippages more than doubled to ₹2,600 crore from ₹1,200 crore while the NPA additions rose to ₹5,916 crore. However, Batra was quick to add that "there is no specific sectors to call out now as the stress is mostly due to seasonality. Our personal loan book and credit cards constitute 14% of the total retail book and grew by 24% this quarter, which is a significantly lower pace from the pre-November 2023 period when RBI raised the risk capital ratios drastically.

When asked about the impact of the soon to be implemented new LCR (liquidity coverage ratio) framework, Batra and Banerjee told TNIE that it was too early to assess which they haven't done yet but yes there will be some impact.

City Union Bank PAT rises 16% to ₹264 cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

TAMIL NADU-based City Union Bank has reported a 16% rise in profit after tax (PAT) at ₹264 crore in Q1FY25. The bank had reported a PAT of ₹227 crore in the same quarter the previous financial year. The net interest income of the bank rose 4% to ₹545 crore in the quarter. The total income of the Kumbakonam-headquartered lender increased 8% to ₹1,580 crore. The bank reported an increase of 6% to 54,857 crore in deposits in Q1FY25. The bank's advances grew 10% to ₹46,548 crore in Q1FY25 from ₹42,405 crore in the same quarter a year ago. *ENS*

STELLAR SHOW

PNB profit rises 159% to ₹3,252 cr; to raise ₹5K cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

THE third-largest public sector lender Punjab National Bank (PNB) has posted a record 159% year-on-year rise in net income at ₹3,252 crore for the June quarter— the highest since the amalgamation of Oriental Bank and United Bank of India in April 2020 — boosted by all-round performance including healthy asset quality and higher loan sales. In the year ago period, the bank had booked just ₹1,255 crore in net profit, weighed down by poor assets quality.

On the back of health demand for credit, the New Delhi-based bank said Saturday that its net interest income came in at ₹9,504.3 crore, a growth of 10.2 percent as the net interest margin improved more than targeted at 2.21% from 3.01% and is already above its guidance of 2.9-3 percent, the management said. Of the blended NIM, global NIM stood at 3.07%.

Gross non-performing assets (NPAs) improved by 275 bps to 4.98 percent from 7.73% in June 2023 and 5.73% in the March quarter, while net NPAs improved by 138 bps to 0.60 percent, Atul Kumar Goel, the managing director and chief executive of the bank told reporters in a post-results press conference. He also said he expects GNPA to fall to 4 percent by the end of the current fiscal year.

Goel attributed the better set of numbers to the overall good show lead by higher recoveries, overall business growth, margin expansion, lower cost of deposits and lower credit cost.

NEWSCOPE

THERE'S BIG MONEY ON JOBS, BUT WILL THE NEEDLE MOVE?

GURBIR SINGH

IF there is anything that the Union Budget for FY2025 will be remembered for it will be for its focus on stoking job creation. After all, rural distress and unemployment were among the main reasons that BJP suffered major reverses in the Lok Sabha elections; and the Modi government, hanging on a thread of demanding coalition partners, is keen to reverse the trend.

It is also significant that the push for jobs has found bipartisan approval. Former Union finance minister P. Chidambaram lost no time in reminding the current finance minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, of plagiarizing from the Congress Manifesto.

"I am happy she has virtually adopted the Employment-linked incentive (ELI) outlined on page 30 of the Congress manifesto. I am also happy that she has introduced the Apprenticeship scheme ... spelt out on page 11 of the Congress manifesto," the former Finance Minister jeered in a series of posts on X.

The size of the employment booster is humungous – ₹4.8 lakh crore spread over 5 years and 5 schemes. The focus is on first-timers and new recruits, and the government hopes it will benefit as many as 3 crore youth.

- Scheme A - Direct Benefit Transfer of 1-month salary in 3 instalments up to ₹15,000 to first-time employees registered in EPFO.
- Scheme B – Creation of jobs through manufacturing incentives for both employee and employers, as per their EPFO contribution, in the first 4 years of employment.
- Scheme C - Reimbursement to employers up to 3,000 per month for 2 years as an incentive for every additional employee added to their workforce.

Besides the direct benefit incentives, the government has announced an ambitious skilling scheme, in collaboration with employers, for upgrading 20 lakh youth over the next 5 years. As a sweetener the model skilling loan scheme will now provide loans up to ₹7.5 lakh per trainee.

But are all these measures enough to move the needle?

Growing joblessness

Let's look for a moment at the size of the problem. According to private data agency, the Centre For Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), India's unemployment rate – the percentage of people unemployed – stood at 9.2% in June this year. This is a sharp increase from 7% in May 2024.

Slice the numbers further and one realizes it is the youth that bears the yoke – 83% of the jobless population is under the age of 34, according to the India Employment Report 2024 published by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Institute of Human Development (IHD).

SOURAV ROY

The problem is big. According to CMIE, the unemployment rate for youth aged 20-24 soared to an alarming 44.49% in early 2024, while nearly 16% of urban youth aged 15-29 were jobless in 2022-23 due to inadequate skills and a lack of quality jobs.

Hindustan Unilever (HUL) managing director Rohit Jawa bemoaned the poor growth in sales of the company's consumer products at just 3% in the past financial year and put it down to low employment levels and wages as well as food inflation in rural India.

To address the problem, and to account for the new numbers entering the workforce, the recent government's Economic Survey estimates the economy must generate 80 lakh jobs annually for the next 30 years. Even if the schemes proposed by the government run full pelt, and they reach 100% target, we still have a shortfall of one crore jobs in every 5-year cycle.

Will private units help?

Much of the success of the government's job generation schemes depends on the participation by private employers? But will they play ball?

For instance, the 5th scheme in the job package provides for internship in 500 top companies to one crore youth over 5 years. For the training and opportunities provided the companies participating will be paid an internship allowance of ₹5,000 per month per intern, along with a one-time assistance of Rs 6,000. The cost of internship and training will be borne by the companies from their CSR funds.

It is quite an unusual scheme and likely to be doomed to failure. It assumes each of these 500 companies will train 20,000 interns over 5 years – a massive call. How will these interns be chosen? Where will they be deployed. Private companies make their business plans and hire specific skill sets based on market demand and their profit targets. This may not be in line with the government's job training targets.

Again, 'Scheme C' envisages private companies hiring additional working hands and being compensated ₹3,000 per month per worker through EPFO contributions for 2 years. It is difficult to imagine why private businesses should recruit extra hands for these paltry reimbursements if it does not fit their business plans.

Private companies in India have been notoriously tight-fisted in deploying fresh capital and have been reluctant to kick-start expansion. This is well known, and it is surprising how budget proposals have been hitched to an indeterminate private sector.

Spending on crucial infrastructure projects by the government works better. So do targeted schemes like the Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA) that provide jobs in lean seasons to rural folk.

Jain Corp V-P buys Kamachi Industries

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

CHENNAI-based Kamachi Industries has been acquired by Jaicorp's vice chairman Virendra Jain, along with his son Ankit Jain ,for ₹487 crore through a corporate insolvency resolution process.

In a press release issued on Saturday, Kamachi Industries has said the strategic acquisition ensures the continuation of the company's operations, thereby preserving its value and paving the way for future growth.

The bid of ₹487 crore was made under a National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) monitored process initiated by State Bank of India. This transaction encompasses all movable and immovable assets along with lease hold rights, but excludes the liquidation bank account of Kamachi Industries Limited.

With the completion of the balance payment of ₹365 crore, Virendra Jain and Ankit Jain have gained full management control of the unit.

Emerging as the highest bidders in the liquidation process, they have demonstrated their commitment to maintaining seamless operations of Kamachi Industries Limited.

The acquisition marks a pivotal moment in resolving the insolvency proceedings of Kamachi Industries Limited and secures its future growth, heralding a new chapter of long-term stability and development. Kamachi industries has an integrated steel plant with a Sponge iron division.

EXPRESS READ

Manoj Mittal takes charge as Sidbi CMD

MUMBAI: Manoj Mittal has assumed office as the Chairman and managing director (CMD) of the small businesses-focused developmental lender Small Industries Development Bank of India (Sidbi), following his appointment by the government. *ENS*

REC profit up 16.57% to ₹3,460 crore in Q1

NEW DELHI: State-owned REC on Saturday posted a 16.57% rise in consolidated net profit to ₹3,460.19 crore for the June quarter mainly on the back of higher revenues. In the year-ago period, its net profit stood at ₹2,968.05 crore, the company said in an exchange filing. *ENS*

Sebi bans Mallya from mkt for 3 years for rigging

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

MARKETS regulator Sebi has barred fugitive businessman and ex-liquor baron Vijay Mallya from the securities markets for three years and restrained him from associating with any listed firm for a similar period for routing funds using his overseas bank accounts with the Swiss bank UBS.

The government has been attempting to extradite Mallya from England to face fraud charges related to his defunct Kingfisher Airlines. A Sebi probe covering January 2006 to March 2008 has found Mallya used Matterhorn Ventures, a foreign institutional investor, to trade in shares of his group companies —Herbertsons and United Spirits — by routing funds via overseas accounts. United Spirits is owned by the English liquor giant Diageo.

He routed money via accounts with UBS to the market using Matterhorn. He used overseas entities to hide his true identity, the probe has found. Matterhorn was wrongly listed as a non-promoter public shareholder in Herbertsons even as its 9.98% shareholding belonged to promoter category.

In her 37-page order, Sebi chief general manager Anitha Anoop said "the noticee (Mallya) has devised a scheme to indirectly trade in shares of his own group companies via layered transactions using his overseas related firms via FII route so as to keep his identity masked and trade in the market in defiance of the regulatory norms".

Harley opens its second dealership in Chennai

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

MARINA Harley-Davidson, the retail outlet for premium Harley-Davidson range of motorcycles, has strengthened presence with the opening of its second dealership in the city, the company said on Saturday.

After the first facility located in Nungambakkam, Marina Harley-Davidson has inaugurated the second facility spread across 3,000 sq ft at Velappanchavadi in the city.

Marina Harley-Davidson General Manager Srinivasan inaugurated the outlet at an event here which would offer sales and service.

"We owe our success and continued growth to the unwavering support of our loyal riders and customers. Their enthusiasm fuels our commitment to delivering excellence in every aspect of our dealership experience," Srinivasan was quoted as saying in a press release.

Vedanta Aluminium major tree plantation drive

JHARSUGUDA: Vedanta Aluminium, in collaboration with Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, spearheaded a tree plantation drive. The 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign saw over 2,000 saplings planted, with participation from district administration, school students, Vedanta employees, and volunteers.

Uttarakhand launches Homestays booking portal

Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board has launched an online booking portal for booking of Homestays. Bookings for Homestays in Uttarakhand can now be made via www.uttarastays.com. This is the first such initiative by any state tourism department where state sponsored Homestay booking portal has been launched.

Plantation activity of Canara Bank

Bhubaneswar: On the occasion of World Environment Day, Hon'ble Prime Minister planted a sapling of peepal tree at Buddha Jayanti Park, New Delhi and #Plant4Mother campaign. Plantation of trees is central to the objectives of halting and reversing Land degradation, building drought resilience and preventing desertification. It is proposed to plant 80 crore trees by September and 140 crore by March 2025 following a "Whole of Government" and "Whole of Society Approach". The trees would be planted across the country by individuals, entities, community based organizations, central and state government departments and local bodies. The importance of planting trees which nurture human beings, the inter-relationship between tree, Mother and Mother Earth, would be emphasized through the idea of Plant4Mother.

Business & Beyond

Agri Dept & Farmers' Welfare, NABARD announce 'Agri SURE' fund of ₹750 cr

Mumbai: The Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare in collaboration with the NABARD held a prelaunch stakeholder meet to announce 'AgriSURE' fund, an Agri Fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises. The fund is announced by NABVENTURES, a subsidiary of NABARD with initial corpus of ₹750 Crore with ₹250 crore each from NABARD and Ministry of Agriculture, and ₹250 crore from other institutions. The event took place in Mumbai was graced by the presence of Ajeet KumarSahu, Joint Secretary, Department of Agriculture &Farmers Welfare, Shaji K.V., Chairman, NABARD, among others.

PPA conducted "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan" at JAGRUTY

Administrative Department of Pardip port Authority conducted cleaning programme at JAGRUTY, a school of physically and mentally challenged children, with the help of Paradip Ladies Club, Paradip Sakharata Samiti and Paradeep Municipality, under the guidance of Shri U. R. Mohan Raju, Secretary, PPA. The Officials and employees of Admn Deptt. joined the cleanness drive. Commenting about the Swachhata drive, Secy, PPA said that Cleanliness is not just a transient allegiance, but it is a way of life for realising a dream of clean and green society. Today's programme is yet another remarkable initiative for a cleaner and healthier environment for the young children.

PARIS 2024

Magnifique de Olympique

THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

BENGALURU
SUNDAY
JULY 28, 2024

10 Georgian shooter Nino Salukvadze has become the first woman to compete at ten Olympics | 13

Boxer Preeti enters pre-quarterfinals

Indian boxer Preeti Pawar defeated Vietnam's Vo Thi Kim Anh in women's 54kg category first round bout to enter the pre-quarterfinals at the Paris Olympics on Saturday. Asiad bronze medallist Preeti opened the proceedings for India and she won 5-0 on points.

PIC: AP

BHAKER LONE SPARK ON A DULL DAY FOR INDIAN SHOOTING

Manu salvages the day after 10m air rifle mixed & 10m men's air pistol shooters fail to qualify

SHOOTERS lose by fine margins. Technique and mental conditioning are the other weapons in the armoury that usually separate them from the rest. In a competition like the Olympics, there is a third invisible force, just like quantum, called luck. More so in shooting.

The bullet can spray by tenth of a millimetre off the centre but would be enough to slip out of race. For some reason, this luck has been eluding Indian shooters at the Olympics. The day started with despair when the mixed team failed to qualify for the final and continued when the men faltered in the 10m air pistol individual round.

Manu Bhaker saved the day. The immaculate form she is in raises hope for India in the 10m air pistol final on Sunday. Bhaker confessed that she has started to enjoy shooting and it was reflected in her scores. She had the maximum 10s. One hand tucked in the pocket, she was firing with confidence.

Bhaker, who shot 580 to finish third in the qualifications, was the only bright spot on a gloomy day. While conversing with this newspaper after the trials in Bhopal, she had said that she had found joy in shooting. "Whether I win or lose, I don't take pressure anymore," she said and her coming together with Jaspal Rana was the pivotal point in her Bhaker 2.0 transformation.

The Austerlitz area, where the parade for the Opening Ceremony began, was unusually quiet in the wee hours of Saturday. Apart from diversion of traffic, there was no trace of the event that ended just a few hours ago. The only common thread was the rain that poured even in the dawn. Two hundred and fifty kilometres away is Chateauroux, the venue of the shooting competition.

The beautiful countryside is untouched by the euphoria of the spectacular Ceremony. It is not until one reaches the shooting range, another half-an-hour drive from the Gare de Chateauroux, there is any indication that the Games are on. India's quest for a double-figure medal haul began at the shooting ranges on Saturday. There was anticipation as soon as a record number of 21 shooters qualified for the Olympics. The sport itself was looking for that moment of inspiration to end medal drought at the Olympics.

There was hope and a good start was what India was looking forward to. The 10m air rifle mixed teams on whom hope rested showed promise and even had a faint chance to qualify when they were fifth but slipped to sixth in the final standing. Arjun Babuta and Ramita Jindal and Sandeep Singh and Elavenil Valarivan were touted among India's medal hopes but by the time the qualification round ended, there was a sense of despair in the India camp. The best pair Babuta and Pramita finished sixth after reaching fifth before the penultimate series.

Pressure of the Olympics is different. Babuta, Ramita, Elavenil and Sandeep too learnt it. So did men's 10m air pistol shooters Sarabjot Singh and Arjun Singh Cheema. Sarabjot slipped out of the qualification bracket for missing out on a point in the inner 10. China's Huang Yuting and Sheng Lihao, the reigning world champions finished on top with a score of 632.2 while South Korea's Keum Jihyeon and Hajun Park tallied 631.4. Kazakhstan's Alexandra Le and Islam Satpayev (630.8) finished ahead of Germany's Anna Janssen and Maximilian Ulbrich (629.7).

"We tried our best but were unfortunate to not qualify," said Babuta. Others echoed him.

With the individual rounds just about a day later, the shooters are trying to keep the setback behind and move on. Failing in the first competition of course doesn't give the necessary boost to excel and Babuta knows about this. He was quick to respond.

"We have trained for all scenarios," he said. "We know what needs to be done and will have a round of discussion with my coach and will start concentrating on my next target." Ramita, who was listening to him intently, added that they know what needs to be done.

Qualifying in the individual round begins on Sunday. But all eyes will be on the big final – 10m air pistol where Manu will be standing against some of the precision specialists. In fact, India can very well be among the medals on Sunday.

HOW THE DAY WENT BY

10m women's air pistol

- Top eight from qualification round enter the final
- Manu Bhaker shot 580 to finish third and reach final, which is on Sunday
- The other Indian representative, Rhythm Sangwan, ended 15th with a score of 573

FORMAT FOR THE FINAL

- In the final, all eight have the opportunity to fire eight shots. Post that, the shooter in eighth place will be eliminated.
- After the first elimination, shooters keep getting eliminated after every two shots (a shoot-off may be implemented if scores are level at any point during the final)
- Points from the qualification stage are not carried over to the final

The final is at 3.30 PM IST today

10m air rifle mixed team event

- Both Indian teams were eliminated at the qualification stage
- Ramita and Arjun Babuta finished sixth with a total score of 628.7
- Elavenil Valarivan and Sandeep Singh ended at 12th place with an aggregate score of 626.3

10m men's air pistol

- Sarabjot Singh and Arjun Singh Cheema could not make the final
- Sarabjot finished ninth with a total score of 577
- Arjun ended way behind at 18th with 574

Aussie Ariarne wins Titmus test

INDRANEEL DAS @ Paris

Australia's Ariarne Titmus in action during women's Olympic 400m freestyle | AP

THE story of how La Defense Arena was transformed is as whacky and ridiculously crazy as the Opening Ceremony was. For some reason, the Paris 2024 OC has turned into a metaphor for unimaginable artistry that borders around insanity. After all, art is all about that. The Arena, on Saturday, hosted the most anticipated rivalry of the Games. The women's 400m freestyle final. The cast: Katie Ledecky, Ariarne Titmus and the new challenger to their legacy, Summer McIntosh of Canada.

But the story is as much about the La Defence Arena as it is about the race. In May, the Arena hosted a Taylor Swift event, and now, it was hosting one of the Games's most anticipated events, a defining moment in the history of the Olympics. But before being venue to that, the Arena had to undergo a metamorphosis in the Kafkaesque sense with the giant 40,000 capacity stadium suddenly morphing into a swimming arena.

Two 50m pools were dug - one for competition and the other for warming up. Millions of litres of water were poured into the raised pit. The pools are 2.3m deep and have 10 lanes and are made of stainless steel components. And where the 22m half line of the rugby pitch was supposed to be is where the press tribune is.

But once the race started, the history of the pool no longer mattered. It was about the sport and the athletes. Titmus battled to save her ovary when a giant benign tumour was discovered last year during an MRI. She was torn between motherhood and swimming, her passion. She revealed about the tumour in an instagram post and said: "A large growth was found on my right ovary. For anyone that knows me, they'd know I'd give up anything in the world to be a mother, it's my biggest dream so this was a scary time for me."

She battled today but not against Ledecky. Her main competition was McIntosh, still only 17, for gold. Ledecky, the original superstar, finished third. In Tokyo 2020, Titmus beat the elder statesman, who was the champion in the Rio Games, whose Games record still stands. The world record, however, is with Titmus. Even before they dived into the water, the world waited with bated breath. The hall reverberated with cheers that felt like a thousand decibels. It was deafening. Then the three stepped inside the arena and stood there on the platform. The silence before the whistle was haunting. But as soon as they dived, there was no restraint in the yells for their favourite heroes.

It was, perhaps, pre ordained that the swimmers finish 1-2-3 but the order was anybody's guess. In the end, the defending champion prevailed, with McIntosh taking silver and Ledecky finishing third. **Results: Women's 400m freestyle:** Ariarne Titmus (AUS) 3:57.49s; Summer McIntosh (CAN) 3:58.37s; Katie Ledecky (USA) 4:00.86s; **Men's 400m freestyle:** Lukas Maertens (GER) 3:41.78s; Elijah Winnington (AUS) 3:42.21s; Kim Woo-min (SKO) 3:42.50s.

INDIA AT THE GAMES

SHOOTING: 10m Air Rifle Women's Qualification
12.45 PM: Elavanil Valaravin and Ramita Jindal

10m Air Rifle Men's Qualification
2.45 PM: Sandeep Singh and Arjun Babuta

10m Air Pistol Women's Final
3.30 PM: Manu Bhaker

BADMINTON: WOMEN'S SINGLES
12.50 PM: PV Sindhu

MEN'S SINGLES:
8 PM: HS Prannoy

MEN'S SINGLE SCULLS REPECHAGE 2
1.18 PM: Balraj Panwar

TABLE TENNIS: WOMEN'S SINGLES FIRST ROUND
2.15 PM: Sreeja Akula

MEN'S SINGLES FIRST ROUND
3 PM: Sharath Kamal

WOMEN'S SINGLES FIRST ROUND
4.30 PM: Manika Batra

SWIMMING: Men's 100m Backstroke
3.16 PM: Srihari Nataraj

Women's 200m Freestyle
3.30 PM: Dhinidhi Desinghu

BOXING: Women's 50kg class first round
3.50 PM: Nikhat Zareen

ARCHERY: Women's team quarterfinals
5.45 PM: Ankita Bhakat, Deepika Kumari, Bhajan Kaur

Live on Sports18 & JioCinema (All times IST)

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Artistic Gymnastics: Women's qualification
Swimming: Men's 400m IM final
Archery Women's team final

SEINE FROM PARIS

Desai advances in men's singles TT

PARIS: Appearing in his maiden Olympics, Indian paddler Harmeet Desai progressed to the second round of the men's singles table tennis competition with a 4-0 win over Jordan's Zaid Abo Yaman on Saturday. Harmeet won 11-7, 11-9, 11-5, 11-5 to get his campaign underway on a positive note. Harmeet, in Paris, is competing as one of the two men's singles players alongside Sharath Kamal.

Swiatek, Alcaraz win on day one

PARIS: Iga Swiatek shook off a bit of a dip in the first round of the Paris Olympics tennis competition and grabbed the last four games to beat Romania's Irina-Camelia Begu 6-2, 7-5 on Saturday under a closed roof at Roland Garros. Carlos Alcaraz enjoyed a winning start to his Games career when he swept aside Lebanon's Hady Habib 6-3, 6-1.

Satwik-Chirag, Sen make confident starts

AGENCIES @ Paris

MEDAL contenders Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty signalled their intention with an easy straight-game victory in their opening group stage men's doubles match after singles ace Lakshya Sen got his maiden Olympic campaign underway on a winning note here on Saturday.

The third-seeded duo of Satwik-Chirag, the reigning Asian Games champions, notched up a 21-17, 21-14 win against the French pair of Lucas Corvee and Ronan Labar in a Group C match while Sen beat Tokyo edition semifinalist Kevin Cordon of Guatemala 21-8, 22-20 in a Group C contest of the men's singles. Satwik and Chirag will face Mark Lamsfuss and Marvin Seidel of Germany in their second match on Monday. Sen won against reigning Pan American champion Cordon. Sen will face Julien Carraggi of Belgium in his second group match on Monday. Later in the day, Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto lost 18-21, 10-21 to the South Korea's Kim So-Yeong and Kong Hee Yong.

MEDALS TALLY

Australia	2(G)	1(S)	0(B)
China	2	0	0
France	1	1	1
Belgium	1	0	1

* Updated till Swimming Women's 400m Freestyle event on Saturday night

Wet, wet and wet - inclement weather makes its presence felt at Games

INDRANEEL DAS @ Paris

IF anything that is grabbing headlines at the Paris 2024 Games after the spectacular Opening Ceremony, it's the rain. The weather had been wet, wet and wet. The ceremony on Friday bore the brunt of the inclement weather when it started to rain incessantly as it entered into its climax. Athletes' transparent ponchos turned saviour and in the land of fashionable clothing lines as humble a piece as a poncho stood out. Rain or more rain, spectators on Friday did not leave the banks of Seine. Some just stood there applauding the boatful of athletes, song and mirth of the stars.

Wet weather delayed the start of play at the Roland-Garros on Saturday | AFP

There was no respite on Saturday either. It was pouring in the morning and rained almost throughout central France in Châteauroux where the shooting events are being held. Some of the outdoor events are being rescheduled. Sports like skateboarding have been postponed till Monday. Some of the matches at Roland Garros were affected as well.

When South was North Korea

It's one of the most sensitive countries in the world. No one would want to mix their names. North is North and South is South and the two Koreas would have loved to be called just that. In a confusion during Opening Ceremony, the two Koreas were mixed up and instead of South they announced North. Just like the mix up, it is not always the IOC comes out and apologises. "We deeply apologise for the mistake that occurred when introducing the Korean team during the opening ceremony broadcast," the IOC posted on X.

HOCKEY

Harmanpreet's late strike takes India past NZ

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

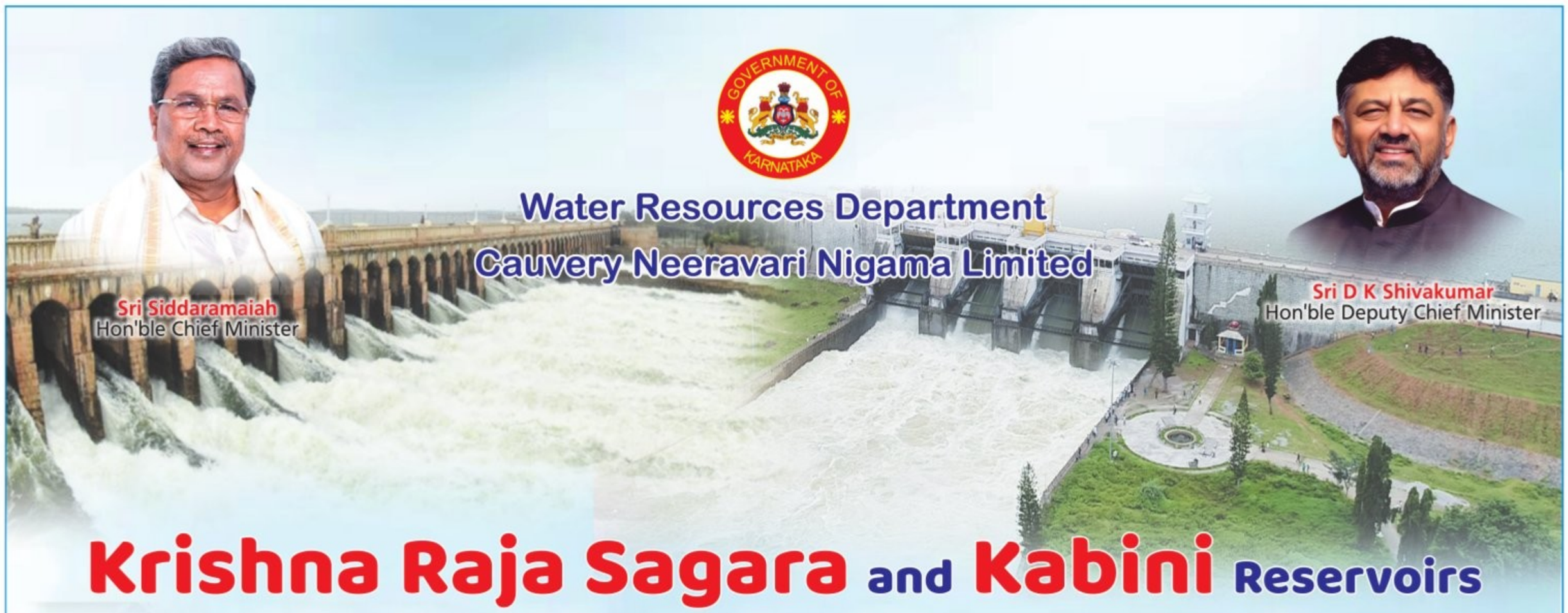
IN a madcap game which had everything in it including cards, plenty of penalty corners and a penalty stroke, the men's hockey team fought-back from a goal-down, managed to lose control after being a goal-up before finally winning it with less than 120 seconds on the clock.

In the end, a 3-2 win for the Men In Blue, who won bronze in Tokyo, was probably a fair outcome against an inspired New Zealand outfit. The Black Sticks, who famously took down India in a crossover at last year's World Cup, had a familiar look to the side, with as many as nine of the 11 starters from that day starting. Post that defeat in the shoot-out in 2023, India have had a changed look, especially to the coaching staff. But the problems they had during the game harked back to teams of old.

India players celebrate their second goal against New Zealand | AP

Control was minimal and the defending was questionable as the gameplay went from coast to coast in the blink of an eye. In that sense, it resembled more of a pick-up basketball game and not an elite game of field hockey at the Olympics.

But Harmanpreet Singh & Co. will worry about the manner of their performance in the morning. With stiffer tests against Australia and Belgium saved for the last, they need all the momentum in the initial games. That's why Harmanpreet was a relieved man when the hooter cut through the gloomy Paris air. Quietly, the captain will be pleased with his drag-flicking. He may not have scored from it but it was highly effective. Mandeep Singh pounced to slam the loose ball home after Harmanpreet's goal-bound effort was parried into the forward's path. The late penalty also came via a drag-flick. **Score:** India 3 (Mandeep Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, Harmanpreet Singh) - 2 New Zealand (Sam Lane, Simon Child)



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Water Resources Department
Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Limited

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri D K Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

Krishna Raja Sagara and Kabini Reservoirs

are brimming with water heralding prosperous times.
On this auspicious occasion, Hon'ble Chief Minister
Sri Siddaramaiah and
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Sri D. K. Shivakumar
will offer

Pooja and the traditional Bagina to Goddess Kaveri

Details of water to be released to Tamil Nadu as per Cauvery Water Tribunal and actual water released at Biligundlu

Last 6 years

Rain year	Water to be released as per Cauvery Water Tribunal	Actual release of water at Biligundlu as per Cauvery Water Tribunal (in TMC)
2018-19	177.250 TMC as per the Supreme Court order dated 16.02.2018	404.444
2019-20		275.40
2020-21		211.316
2021-22		281.084
2022-23		667.533
2023-24		81.417

Current Rain Year (2024-25)

Month	Water to be released as per Cauvery Water Tribunal (in TMC)	Actual release of water at Biligundlu as per Cauvery Water Tribunal (in TMC)
June 2024	9.19	2.252
July 2024	27.21 (27.07.2024)	55.548
Cumulative till July 27, 2024	36.40	57.80

Bagina offering programme at Krishna Raja Sagara reservoir

Date: 29.07.2024 | Monday | Time: 11 am
Place: Goddess Kaveri Statue, KRS

August Presence

Sri H. D. Kumaraswamy
Hon'ble Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel, Government of India

Sri N. Chaluvaraya Swamy
Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Dist. In-charge Minister for Mandya

Sri N. S. Boseraju
Hon'ble Minister for Minor Irrigation and Science and Technology, Dist. In-charge Minister for Kodagu

Sri K. Venkatesh
Hon'ble Minister for Animal Husbandry and Sericulture Dist. In-charge Minister for Chamarajanagar

Hon'ble Deputy CM & Minister for Irrigation Sri D. K. Shivakumar and Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture Sri N. Chaluvaraya Swamy at KRS reservoir

Presided by

Sri Ramesh Babu Bandisidde Gowda
Hon'ble MLA, Srirangapatna Assembly Constituency

Bagina offering programme at Kabini reservoir

Date: 29.07.2024 | Monday | Time: 3 pm
Place: Kabini Reservoir, Beechanahalli, H.D. Kote Taluk, Mysuru District

August Presence

Sri H. D. Kumaraswamy
Hon'ble Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel, Government of India

Sri H. C. Mahadevappa
Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Dist. In-charge Minister for Mysore

Sri N. S. Boseraju
Hon'ble Minister for Minor Irrigation and Science and Technology, Dist. In-charge Minister for Kodagu

Sri K. Venkatesh
Hon'ble Minister for Animal Husbandry and Sericulture Dist. In-charge Minister for Chamarajanagar

Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare Sri H. C. Mahadevappa and Hon'ble Deputy CM & Minister for Irrigation Sri D. K. Shivakumar at an event.

Presided by

Sri C. Anil Kumar
Hon'ble MLA, H. D. Kote Assembly Constituency

Chief Guests

Hon'ble Members of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, Legislative Assembly, Legislative Council, Gram Panchayat Presidents, Vice Presidents and Members, Chairmen of Boards and Corporations and all elected representatives

DELIVERED AS PROMISED...

Shakti – Free bus service for women across Karnataka | Gruha Jyothi – UPTO 200 UNITS FREE ELECTRICITY TO EACH HOME | Anna Bhagya – 10kg Free food grains | Gruha Lakshmi – ₹2000 per month to the female head of the family | Yuva Nidhi – ₹3000 Per month for Graduates, ₹1500 Per month for Diploma Holders

All are Welcome

Sri Gourav Gupta, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.
Water Resources Department

Sri Krishnamurthy B. Kulakarni, KES
Secretary,
Water Resources Department

Sri Mahesha, KES
Managing Director
Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Limted

As is enshrined in our Constitution to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.